

Los Angeles Police
Protective League

The Blue Line

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Los Angeles, Calif. 90017



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Board of Directors is Working for You

by Mitzi Grasso

Ticket Quotas

The LAPD mission statement makes very clear what our department should be about. It reads:

It is the mission of the Los Angeles Police Department to safeguard the lives and property of the people we serve, to reduce the incidence and fear of crime, and to enhance public safety while working with the diverse communities to improve their quality of life. Our mandate is to do so with honor and integrity, while at all times conducting ourselves with the highest ethical standards to maintain public confidence.

Honor and integrity - highest ethical standards - public confidence, these things are indeed very important. So, how then can LAPD continue to enforce illegal ticket and arrest quotas? They violate California law (41602 V.C.) yet every working police officer in Los Angeles knows they are a part of the LAPD system. Pursuant to directives from some senior command staff, however, supervisors use assignments, promotions and time off to reward or punish officers based on the number of arrests they make and/or tickets they issue each DP.

This system has to go. It's not only illegal; it dangerously undermines public confidence in our Department. And for all of us for whom morale is much more than a paycheck, it is yet another blow to our pride in the job.

Why should the tax-paying public of Los Angeles have to deal with this? Why should people who deserve warnings be cited? They blame us, the working men and women of the Department, rather than management. We all understand that exercising intelligent discretion is a critical part of this job. We know that the decision to arrest or cite is sometimes complex and should only be made after a professional evaluation of all the circumstances, not as a response to threats or promises from above.

Chief Parks says he does not support these backdoor work quotas and we are taking him at his word for now. However, we also believe this issue should be investigated in public and a resolution worked out in full view of everyone. The Department has a big job to do toward restoring public confidence. It is very important that job not be done behind closed doors, which is the Department's preference, but out in the open for all to see.

Fixing the Discipline System

Good news! We are working with the Department on procedures to revamp the 1.28 system for handling disciplinary complaints. We making progress on achieving our reform goals, which are:

- To improve the system for screening personnel complaints against officers, including creating a review and evaluation supervisor in each divi-

sion to screen complaints and determine which complaints are worthy of further investigation as a personnel complaint.

- Improve the system for investigating personnel complaints. There must be substantial reforms of Internal Affairs Group, including creating civilian oversight.
- Improve the system of adjudicating personnel complaints against officers by creating a civilian review board outside of the Police Department to replace the current Board of Rights' system.
- Improve the disciplinary system through the adoption of a "uniform penalty guide" for disciplining officers as previously approved by the Police Commission. A binding administrative appeal procedure that satisfies due process of law must be implemented.

The Board will keep you informed, as more specifics become available as we work through this process with management.

Polling Results

A poll released March 5th by the *Los Angeles Times* had some interesting findings. Among LA residents, over the past year Chief Parks' job approval dropped 13 points to 37 percent, the lowest ever. Approval of the LAPD, however, is up slightly from one year ago. Best of all, about 75% of respondents said they have faith that most police officers are honest and hard working.

The last finding is very gratifying. As an organization, one of our objectives is to bring the working members of the LAPD closer to the community. This poll shows that increasingly the public sees us for what we really are — dedicated professionals committed to improving the lives of the people of Los Angeles.

Election Day

April 10 is a very important date - please mark your calendars and remember to tell everyone you know in the City of Los Angeles to vote. Two LAPPL Directors, Dennis Zine and Ken Hillman will be on the ballot as candidates for the LA City Council. This is very important. Get out to vote, and bring your family and friends.

Getting in Shape

Finally, take care of yourself. Without your health, nothing else much matters. The League has negotiated a special deal with 24-Hour Fitness. For just \$22 per month for a regular membership or \$32 per month for a Sport membership, you can have access to any 24-Hour Fitness. There are no registration fees and no additional costs. Just walk into any 24-Hour Fitness to register. The long-range benefits of maintaining a workout program are just too good to pass up!

Police Associations Prevail over Garcetti's Special Directive

In a victory for the principal of equal justice for all, the office of Los Angeles District Attorney Steve Cooley has rescinded the notorious Special Directive 00-01 issued by former District Attorney Gil Garcetti. The special directive was the subject of a lawsuit brought by the LAPPL, the Peace Officers' Research Association of California Legal Defense Fund and 21 other police associations throughout Los Angeles County.

We welcome this eminently sensible decision. The special directive was worse than ridiculous, it was dangerous. It threatened to destroy the balance between police officers' First Amendment rights to privacy and the rights of defendants to a fair trial. That's why we brought a lawsuit to challenge it.

Among other things, this directive required prosecutors to gather, investigate and disclose allegations of misconduct against any police officer who is or may be called to testify on behalf of the prosecution in a criminal matter. As such, an officer could be investigated even after he or she has been fully exonerated of any wrongdoing, or the charges found to be without merit.

The LAPPL and other police associations support any measure that protects and asserts the right to a fair trial, but not when such a measure tramples on other rights. Statutory mechanisms already exist to ensure that criminal defendants have access to information that might assist them in a trial. Fundamentally, the LAPPL and other police associations believe it is wrong that allegations of misconduct by police officers, which may have been found baseless, could be disseminated without those concerned being given any chance to present their side of the argument and protect the information in their personnel files.

While we are greatly encouraged by the speed with which the new DA has rejected Garcetti's final idiocy, we will remain vigilant for the rights of rank-and-file police officers. We ask for nothing more than fair treatment under the law. Unfortunately, that can sometimes be an uphill battle when some people seek to impose different standards of law on police officers than those that they would have imposed on themselves.

League News

If you want to find out what's going on at the LAPPL, simply go to our website, which can be accessed by logging on to www.lapd.com. Click on "In The News" to read our latest press releases or find out what others are saying about the LAPD.

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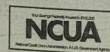
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WORKING FOR YOU

BOB BAKER, VICE PRESIDENT

As most of you are aware, our Department has spent the last couple of years devoting its energies toward finding new ways in which to discipline its officers. Many of our members have been improperly subjected to multiple punishments based on one incident. Often that event occurred several years earlier. Under the current system, for example, an officer may receive (1) a personnel complaint with resulting discipline, (2) a reassignment to a non-field position (i.e., Brady Letter), (3) a reduction in paygrade with punitive transfer, and (4) denial of promotion after a Board of Inquiry hearing. In effect, our members are being blacklisted from any fruitful employment opportunities in the Department without any opportunity to rehabilitate or to prove themselves qualified. Even worse, these same members are often doing the work associated with the position they once lost only without the pay, status or opportunity, not to mention any right, to a meaningful evidentiary appeal. In response to these cries of injustice, the League, with the help of the law firm of Silver, Hadden & Silver, has instituted numerous legal proceedings to reverse these unfair practices employed by the Department.

First, the League is supporting a

class action lawsuit currently pending in the United States District Court to challenge the reassignments to non-field positions, or Brady Letters, that have sent many capable officers to the desk or the equipment room without cause or any right to appeal. Many of these same officers have lost compensation in the form of patrol bonuses, motor pay, personal use of Department vehicles, and loss of the opportunity to earn overtime, to name a few examples. Even more upsetting is that these officers are prohibited from performing the hands-on type of police work that initially motivated them to join the Department.

To add insult to injury, the Department does not appear to be issuing Brady Letters in a uniform manner, thereby allowing certain management employees to escape punishment despite their packages. This is exactly the type of punitive action that has caused the low morale currently prevalent throughout the Department and the rise in good officers transferring to other departments. The Brady lawsuit is designed to remedy these wrongs as well as recover money damages for the emotional distress to the officers and punitive damages against the Department to punish and deter such action in the future. If you are subject to a Brady reassignment and are not

currently part of the lawsuit, please contact the League or Elizabeth Silver Toungeman, Esq. at Silver, Hadden & Silver (310) 393-1486 to join as soon as possible. Remember, there is strength in numbers.

For the last year or so, the League also has been sponsoring several legal actions on behalf of individual members who have been reduced in paygrade along with receiving a suspension by a Board of Rights. These lawsuits are based on a claim that, under those circumstances, the downgrades constitute double jeopardy or double punishment and are not being accomplished in compliance with the progressive corrective procedures prescribed in the Department Manual. Until recently, there was no administrative appeal available to challenge these downgrades as required by state law.

In response, one judge presiding in the Los Angeles County Superior Court has ordered the Department to pay officers who were downgraded at the higher paygrade amount with inter-

est from the time within which they should have been provided an appeal (i.e., within 60 days after the downgrade) until such time as they are actually provided with an administrative appeal and final decision. Because these court orders essentially shift the cost of denying an administrative appeal to the City, the Department reacted by finally implementing an administrative appeal process for officers to challenge reductions in paygrade. Unfortunately, this process, which is codified in Administrative Order No. 15, enacted on November 15, 2000, is virtually identical to the process which the League has been challenging in the negotiations process for a period of almost four years. In fact, the League had already prevailed in an advisory arbitration on February 7, 2000, challenging that administrative appeal process pursuant to an impasse procedure in which the arbitrator found that the process was "so one-sided as to obviate any notion of

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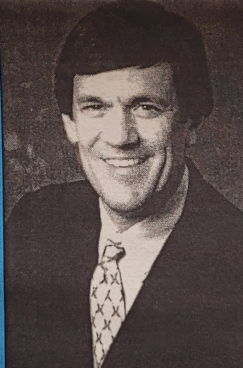
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Who's WATCHING WHO

CLIFF RUFF, SECRETARY

In an effort to be proactive in preventing and identifying corruption in law enforcement the Department is reviewing studies by other departments and reviewing the analysis of personality traits that may indicate an officer being susceptible to becoming corrupt. How the Department intends to utilize or implement any process is not yet known.

What is known is that as a result of the consent decree, the Department will conduct integrity stings to test officer's honesty in staged situations that are video and audio recorded. The Department has previously conducted these operations successfully on officers who were suspects in criminal investigations. Also, they have learned well from previous mistakes on how to document prosecutable cases on errant officers. Some scenarios are the obvious leaving of cash or contraband in an inconspicuous location to determine if the officers follow proper procedure. Because of concerns over the so-called code of silence, there will be police officers who stage misconduct in front of unknowing bystander officers to see if the bystander officers report the staged misconduct. The question raised is, does all of this ferret out corruption or create a state of paranoia?

There was actually testimony at a Police Commission hearing that an officer who uses sick days on Mondays may

be an at risk officer. There is a strong belief among police administration and police psychologists that officers who show a disregard for minor rules are susceptible to breaking major rules. One of the base issues identified in a New York City Commission investigation of corruption suggested that the acceptance of gratuities is the start of corruption in law enforcement. They were specific in identifying free cups of coffee and half price meals. LAPD regulations in Volume One of the manual state that an officer shall never accept a gratuity. If IAD did a sting on eateries that officers frequent would LAPD pass the test? Just something to think about as we move further away from a family to a job with major Orwellian overtones. With our current Draconian disciplinary system and the mandates of the consent decree, our entire careers will be spent looking over our shoulders, not trusting anyone, and CYA. Do the geniuses on the sixth floor ever realize why they can't recruit police officers to Los Angeles? Living by the creed of the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics is an honorable way of life that we all live by. Adhering to it will keep us out of harm's way.

Be careful out there. Remember what P.T. Barnum once said, "you can't cheat an honest man." And we are all honest men and women. The best.

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- Opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Los Angeles Police Protective League.
- No responsibility is assumed for unsolicited material.
- Letters or articles submitted shall be limited to 350 words and must be accompanied by writer's name but may be reprinted without name or address at writer's request.
- Freedom of expression is recognized within the bounds of good taste and the limits of available space.
- The Board of Directors reserve the right to edit submissions and/or include Editor's Notes to any submitted materials.
- Deadline for submissions to the Thin Blue Line is the 6th of the month for the following month's issue date.

NOTICE: The LAPPL is affiliated with the following organizations on the national and state level.

NAPO National Association of Police Organizations representing nearly 250,000 police officer members in 4,000 police associations nationwide.

CCLEA California Coalition of Law Enforcement Associations representing 28 California police officer associations.

SCALE Southern California Alliance of Law Enforcement representing 19 police officer associations.

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TIM SANDS, TREASURER

Rumors of Police Relief

It has been brought to the League's attention that an ex-employee has brought forward accusations of impropriety and misuse of funds by Police Relief. Additionally, the City has been attempting to conduct an audit of Police Relief which was agreed upon during MOU negotiations. However, according to the City, they have met resistance from Police Relief in conducting the audit. Additionally, the League has heard rumors that the City Pension Department will be holding the medical subsidy for retirees if the audit is not completed. The Board of Directors is greatly concerned about these issues and has authorized our General Counsel to take whatever action is necessary to make sure our medical benefits stay intact.

The League's General Counsel Hank Hernandez is drafting a letter to Police Relief requesting the immediate release of numerous documents and financial information which, if presented and audited, would either confirm or refute

any accusations of improprieties by Police Relief. The letter was discussed and approved by our Delegates at the March 6th Delegates' meeting. The League will present the signed letter to Police Relief for action.

The Board of Directors has been meeting with Police Relief constantly to address our concerns. I am not writing this article supporting any accusations of impropriety or misuse of funds by Police Relief. However, the only way to support or refute the accusations is to open the books and this is what the League will request Police Relief to do.

I, as Insurance Chairman and my fellow Board members are 100% committed to getting the truth, so that the rumors will stop. The League will not let our medical benefits for retired and active officers be administered by the City where a cafeteria medical plan may be offered. This would be absolutely unacceptable. I will be updating you in future articles, 20/20 and our website. Take care and be safe.

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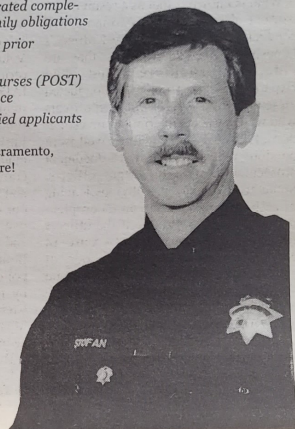
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TED HUNT

LAPD SWAT Wins

The Los Angeles Police Department's SWAT team recently competed in the "SWAT Round Up" in Orlando, Florida. Our SWAT team competed against 84 other teams from the United States and around the world including from Canada, Bosnia, Germany, Hungary, Kuwait and the United States.

LAPD SWAT OIC Lt. Mike Albanese reported that our team came in 4th place overall. 1st Lakeland County Sheriff (FL); 2nd Orange County Sheriffs (FL); 3rd Gwinette County Sheriff (FL); 4th Los Angeles Police

Department (CA). Congratulations to our great LAPD officers.

Power Crisis

About ten years ago some legislators came up with the great idea of deregulating public utilities. On paper it looked great. In reality, ten years later, it has been a disaster. Rather than blame other people for creating the energy mess, Governor Davis took firm control of the crisis and has positioned the State of California on the road to resolving the problem. And the public understands what a good job he has done. According to a recent *L.A. Times* poll, Governor

Davis has received "high marks for handling the crisis, but respondents (were) displeased with others."

In the poll, participants were asked if they approved of the way the electricity situation was handled. It showed that 49 percent of Californians approve of the Governor's handling of the energy crisis. Governor Davis' overall approval rating is 57 percent. For the other "players" in the crisis, the poll results were not so favorable. It showed that the California legislature had a 28 percent approval rating; the private utility companies had a 19 percent approval rating; President Bush had a 33 percent approval rating; and the California PUC had a 16 percent approval rating. Two independent polling agencies also show the Governor has earned high marks. The Field Poll showed him with a 60 percent overall approval rating while the Public Policy Institute showed a 63 percent favorable rating including 47 percent approval among Republicans.

Governor Davis has been severely criticized by the extreme left for his strong stand on public safety. During his campaign for election in 1998 he often repeated publicly that "you can't get to the right of me on public safety." He has kept his word. During the campaign for election in 1998 he promised police officers and firefighters that he would sign binding arbitration into law. He has kept his word.

I recently chaired a nine-hour marathon where our Political Action Committee interviewed candidates for

City Council. As I looked back over the years of broken promises from so many politicians, it is nice to know that at least one of them kept his word.

Killology

Forty-five LAPD officers representing some of our most prestigious divisions — which deal specifically with the use of deadly force and taking of a human life — were on hand in Ontario recently to hear Lt. Col. Dave Grossman (USA Ret) speak. In all, there were 350 law enforcement officers from all over Southern California, but principally from the Inland Empire. Nearly all of Chino PD attended including Chief Gene Hernandez. The number of people who were willing to pay the \$25 training fee to attend, grew so large that the event had to be moved to a theater in the Ontario AMC complex.

Col. Grossman is the author to two books including *ON KILLING: The Psychological Cost of Learning to Kill in War and Society*. One comment from LAPD an officer summed it up, "This should be mandatory training for all LAPD officers from recruit to seasoned veteran."

We are thinking about presenting the one day course in Los Angeles. The estimated cost per trainee would be \$25. If you think it is a good idea or if you would be interested, please drop me a note at the League, a phone message or an e-mail at jtredhunt@aol.com.

You can access Col. Grossman's web page at www.killology.com

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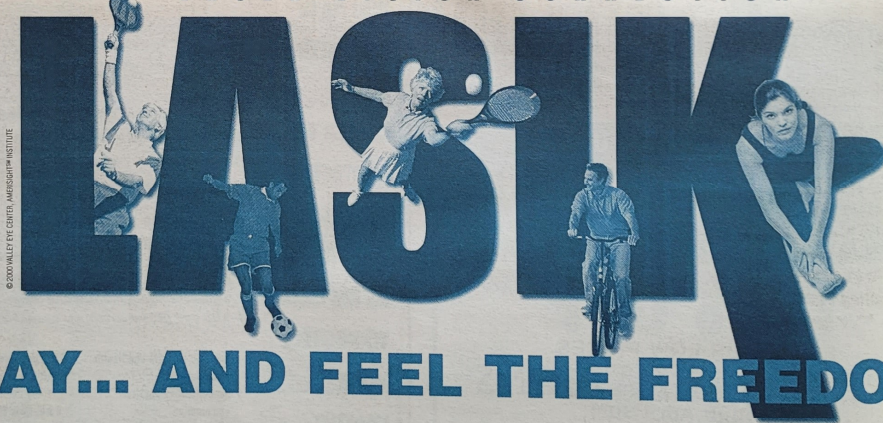
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INTEGRITY IN ALL WE SAY AND DO

DON LINT

The Chief's integrity has been called into question recently. I'm sure that you have all heard about it by now. The flip side of this is rather complicated, so please bear with me while I explain.

As a police officer in this State you have rights in what is called "The Public Safety Officer's Bill of Rights." Those are rights granted to you by the State and they are the law. As rank-and-file officers, those rights are often times trampled by management and Internal Affairs. Your rights are no less important than a suspect on the street, but the Chief and his management staff seem to think there is a vast difference and they think nothing of violating your rights.

You as the rank-and-file officers are also constantly prejudged and assumed guilty simply because an allegation is made against you. The examples are too many to cite all of them, but the Rampart Scandal is a perfect example.

If you were mentioned, you were guilty. You were treated like a criminal that had been found guilty by everyone from the media to the Chief himself. It doesn't sound much like the America that I grew up in.

With these two concepts in mind could we or should we allow the Chief's rights to be violated and should we pre-judge him? I think not. The Chief and his command staff may think some people are entitled to certain rights but they are dead wrong. We are all entitled to all of our rights and to violate one officer's rights is placing in jeopardy all of our rights. The rank-and-file officers are the Los Angeles Police Department, not the Chief of Police. Let us take the high road on this issue and not pass judgment on the Chief and not allow his rights to be violated because when all is said and done, the truth will reveal itself. If that is not the case and this is handled behind closed doors or not

handled at all, then we have all the right in the world to cry "foul."

I suspect the latter will happen. In typical LAPD managerial style, the Chief will be protected and none of the ugly dirt will surface. That would be the time for every rank-and-file officer to demand the termination or resignation of the Chief, because remember in the Chief's own words "If you lie you die" and like Internal Affairs likes to say, "If you didn't do anything wrong why not tell us all about it?" Think of all the officers that have fallen by the wayside since Chief Parks has had his reign of terror. The

appropriate penalty would be exactly what he has been doing to everyone else. If the Mayor is serious about improving morale he will make sure this is all done in the open and the Chief is punished just like any other police officer. On the other hand, he could be found to not have done anything wrong and if that is the case, he should resume in his position without further punishment, even though you are not treated like that. It could be a very eye-opening experience for the Chief.

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CONSENT DECREE BETRAYS THE PUBLIC TRUST

PETER REPOVICH

The final blow to undermining public safety in Los Angeles would be the implementation of the consent decree. I am at a loss for words to justify the need to be managed by the federal government. We have learned that the Los Angeles Police Department could do some things better, out of the Rafael Perez Incident, but the answer does not lie with the federal government. The City of Los Angeles has bright, talented people, who are committed to the citizens of Los Angeles, and police officers who have given their lives to public safety and to the City. The consent decree undermines the responsibility we have as public safety employees and severely hurts the ability of police officers to do the job they are paid to do. The last thing the public deserves or wants, is to tie the hands of our police officers.

The other harsh reality of the consent decree, is the cost in personnel, hard dollars, and what the citizens of Los Angeles gain from something like a consent decree. It is my belief that the City of Los Angeles, the citizens specifically, lose in every aspect of this misguided concept. Our political leaders need to step up to the plate, think out of the box, and be honest about this issue. No one can possibly believe in their hearts that the consent

decree better serves the community. Remember we are here to serve the community, and to fight for what is right. The economic, fiscal, and public safety impact of a consent decree will create an encumbrance on this community that the citizens of Los Angeles don't deserve.

As we move into a new political environment with the arrival of a new mayor in July 2001, and a new City Council, let's take this as an opportunity to bring the principles of business and the new economy into the kinds of decisions that are being made on behalf of the people who pay the taxes.

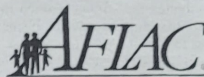
The City of Los Angeles can no longer afford short-sighted political decisions based on disproportionate media sensationalism. We must elect people who make the kind of decisions that are based on business management principles, and who are not afraid to rescind decisions of political correctness. The Los Angeles political environment takes literary license when it comes to policy that is driven by political correctness. We must turn this type of decision making around.

It is time to focus on establishing a healthy work environment by asking how we can put more resources into our organization so that we can better serve the public, and re-establish an

environment that supports police officers. Imagine all of the meetings that have taken place to facilitate the implementation of a federal consent decree that ties the hands of public safety, and costs the citizens of our great community countless millions. Let's hammer out a plan to lower crime, and empower the Los Angeles Police Department to be more effective at its core mission, "protecting and serving the public." Let's get back to spending the time and money to help support the men and women of our Department, instead of working against them.

Finally, let's take some lessons from corporations such as Microsoft, Oracle, and Cisco Systems, and engage in dialogue that will enhance our ability to make change. Yes, we must make change, but not the kind of change that is put forth from inside the Washington D. C. beltway. The kind of change we need comes from the business school, and not from the school of political correctness. NO MORE ABDICATION OF OUR RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT!

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First, I cut my hand and needed a hand specialist to correct the damage. I notified the AFLAC personnel in the LA office and they went to work on it immediately and got me a check within a week to offset some of the costs. Then, about two months later, I cut my finger and ended up in the hospital, on my vacation no less. I contacted them again and even with several hospital visits and different hospitals/doctors involved, they are working it out while I simply get better and go back to work. The employees in the LA office have been more than helpful with the claims, and do all of the paperwork involved, instead of me having to "prove" the injury to them. They simply ask a few questions, get the paperwork together, and my claim is paid quickly without a lot of fuss.

Overall, the employees of AFLAC here in LA are the best of any insurance company I have ever dealt with, and they make the whole insurance process a breeze. I would recommend them to anyone desiring solid insurance coverage.

Sincerely,
Marcus Gibbens
LAPD

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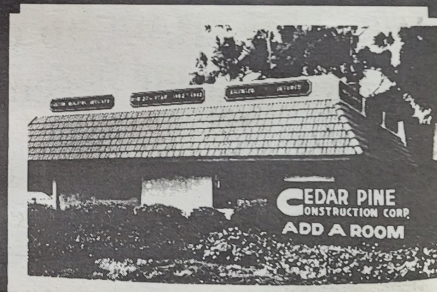
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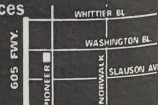


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continued from page 3

impartiality." Despite the arbitrator's findings which were subsequently adopted by the Employee Relations Board, the City refused to modify the appeals process accordingly.

The League took prompt action in continuation of its pursuit for a fair hearing process for reduction of paygrade. Only a few days after the enactment of Administrative Order No. 15, attorneys at Silver, Hadden & Silver filed a lawsuit on behalf of the League challenging Administrative Order No. 15 on the grounds that it violates the members' due process rights to a full and fair evidentiary hearing to appeal reductions in paygrade because it (1) improperly places the burden of proof on the employee, (2) does not require the Department to present any evidence and therefore denies employees their rights to sworn testimony, confrontation and cross-examination, and (3) does not provide for a neutral factfinder in that the same person who participates in the imposition of the reduction of paygrade (i.e., the Chief of Police) also makes the final administrative decision.

In addition to the lawsuit challenging Administrative Order No. 15 which is expected to be resolved in the near future, the League has taken the additional action of initiating an amendment to the Public Safety Officers' Procedural Bill of Rights Act (Government Code Section 3304(b)) that will ensure its members' rights to a full and fair evidentiary hearing whenever a loss of compensation is involved. This proposed amendment has been sponsored and is contained in Senate Bill 988. Of course, we will

continue to inform our members of the development of this important senate bill which will help not only our members, but officers throughout the State of California as well.

Finally, the most recent addition to the egregious actions that have plagued our Department in the last few years are the denials of promotions based on one-sided Board of Inquiry hearings. Any officer who has been to a Board of Inquiry hearing knows that its procedures are designed to promote unfairness in such an extreme manner that it makes the Board of Rights look like the United States Supreme Court. Essentially, the Board of Inquiry process is an inquisition of an officer regarding his or her personnel package in which the officer is generally ordered to leave the room while supervisors testify to their opinion of the officer's competency to be promoted. Despite the fact that most of these officers are being told by their supervisors after the hearing that they testified favorable to the officer, a few weeks later a letter arrives in the mail saying the Chief of Police concurs with the Board of Inquiry's recommendation that the officer "does not merit promotion at this time." No further explanation is afforded to the officers and their request to obtain the Board of Inquiry's reports are subsequently denied. This is especially unfair considering that the Public Safety Officers' Procedural Bill of Rights Act (Government Code Section 3304(b)) guarantees these officers the right to an administrative appeal, yet the Department offers only the hearing procedure set forth in Administrative Order No. 15 described above without the officers being provided with any information regarding the basis for the Department's decision to deny promotions.

In addition, the whole purpose of the Board of Inquiry hearing appears to be a package review which is entirely unnecessary considering that each officer's personnel package is already reviewed and taken into account in the banding process. Although the City Charter grants the Chief of Police a significant amount of discretion regarding promotions, this should not be a license to apply the Board of Inquiry process to some officers based on minor or stale personnel complaints, while allowing other officers in similar or often worse situations to promote freely. The League has again responded by author-

izing a lawsuit challenging these inequitable practices which will be filed in the near future. If you have suffered a denial of promotion but have not yet contacted the League, please do so as soon as possible because strict time limits may apply.

Thank you for your continued patience and support. The League is working hard for you to challenge the ever pervasive obstacles to the opportunity for its qualified members to serve the community in the manner they expected when they began their chosen careers. We can only hope that in the end justice will prevail.

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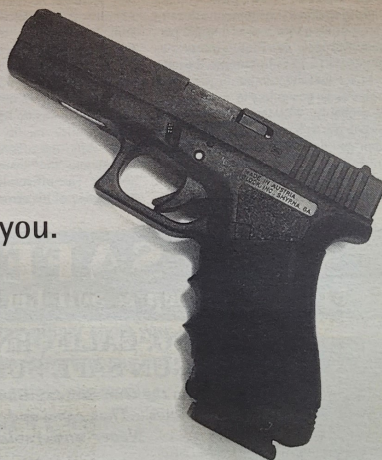
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by Gary Ingemunsun, Attorney at Law

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~John Donne

It's Time to Retire the Head Hunter Mentality

On February 27th of this year, the Police Commission was hearing testimony from the committee members of the Rampart Independent Review Panel. Three of the committee members were addressing the commission on their exhaustive investigation into the morale of the Department. Comments from their testimony is reproduced elsewhere in this month's *Blue Line*, but their assessment of the impact of the disciplinary system can be summarized in the following quote from that testimony.

**"THIS IS A DEPARTMENT
WHOSE MORALE WAS IN
VIRTUAL FREE-FALL."**

It is no secret that the officers on the street have little respect for the disciplinary system. It's time to restore their faith in the fairness of the process. Until they have some faith that the system will treat them fairly, morale will not improve. Until they feel that they can do their job without fear that an out of control disciplinary system will throttle them, the performance statistics that the Department insists upon, will not significantly improve. There are over 5,000 personnel complaints taken each year. Assuming a conservative average of two officers interviewed per complaint, that means there are 10,000 interviews of officers a year. On a 9,000 person police department, that means everyone gets interviewed at least once a year, if the complaints are evenly distributed.

Given this sort of frequent contact with the disciplinary system, one doesn't need a morale meter to see that the perceived fairness of those interviews among the officers is important. It is also easy to see that the number of personnel complaints is not going to decline and, very probably, will increase, now that everyone has to have a 1-800-BEEF ME written on the back of each officer's business card that the Department requires every officer to hand out. (In case you didn't know, the toll free num-

ber for level of service concerns, required by this new special order to be on the back of your business card, is the Internal Affairs duty desk.)

This is why it is time to retire the Head Hunter mentality. If the Department is going to interview 10,000 officers a year, at least the officers should walk away from the interview with the feeling that a fair and impartial investigation is going to be done, and their interviews were a necessary act to fairly adjudicate the complaint. Unfortunately, the officers that run into the Head Hunter mentality walk away with a bitter taste in their mouths. The feeling is inescapable on the interviewed officer's part that the real reason for the interview is to *hang* somebody, not find the truth. For every officer that leaves an interview feeling this way, the effect is compounded times ten. Every officer has a partner, a watch, a circle of friends, and they will all sympathize with the officer as he or she tells the tale around roll calls, coffee shops and camp fires.

A recent example will illustrate the problem. An officer made a routine arrest and found narcotics in the suspect's jacket pocket during the pre-booking search. The suspect was booked and the officer later completed his arrest report. He mistakenly put in the arrest report that the pre-booking search was completed at his home division (as it almost always was) instead of Jail Division. Habit had made his report inaccurate by one word. It was, however, an important word. A month or so later, the mistake was compounded when the officer testified at the suspect's preliminary hearing. Believing his report was accurate, he testified again that the search was completed at his home division. In one sense, what mattered was that the narcotics were in the suspect's jacket, not the building in which the search took place. In another sense, the testimony was not completely accurate even if their was no legal significance to which police facility the search took place. After the officer's testimony was completed, the suspect was held to answer. The officer left court with no knowledge of his error.

At work that night, the officer was at a call where he ran into the officer with whom he had been working the night of this arrest. He informed his former partner of his testimony during the court case and, during this discussion, he realized that the location where he searched the jacket was at Jail Division, not his home division. What to do? Well, he could keep quiet and probably no one would ever know. After all, why would the suspect care where the search had been made, the important part was that the dope was in his jacket pocket. There wasn't even any indication that the suspect, or his attorney, had even been aware (or in any event cared) that the search location testified to was incorrect.

But this officer had a great deal of integrity. He went to his sergeant and informed him that he had testified incorrectly. He wanted to correct it. The sergeant told him to call the Deputy District Attorney the next day (it was then 0100 hours) and see how the DDA wanted to handle it. They would bring everything to the attention of his watch commander the next day since their shift's watch commander had already gone EOW.

The officer called the Deputy District Attorney who had handled the case the next morning. The DDA didn't think it was a big deal. He told the officer to write a follow up report that he would give to the defense attorney. The officer complied.

The officer understood that there would be an investigation and that he would be criticized by the Department and probably suffer some sort of discipline for failing to properly complete his report accurately and failing to properly prepare for court. He knew that he had made a mistake. He, after all, had reported himself. The Department could have conducted a fair interview, disciplined the officer in any manner that his commanding officer felt appropriate, and no one would have thought ill of the disciplinary process. Every officer would admit that this was a mistake that could have been avoided and reasonable discipline would have been expected.

But enter the Head Hunter mentality. The officer, quite reasonably, wanted to exercise his right to consult with a League attorney prior to the interview since any inaccurate court testimony could be construed as a crime. The League attorney, quite reasonably, wanted a copy of the officer's testimony to properly advise the officer. The Department, although in possession of the transcript of the testimony, refused to provide it to the officer. The complaint investigator, under orders from higher up, wanted to interview the officer prior to the officer (or his attorney) being able to review his testimony. In short, the Department wanted this officer to enter this potentially career ending interview as unprepared as possible. Why? Hey, maybe his interview wouldn't exactly match his testimony of a month or so before and the Department could charge him with false and misleading statements to the investigator?

Think about it. Can a criminal defense attorney in a first degree murder trial get the judge to order an officer not to read his preliminary hearing transcript before he testifies at the jury trial because the criminal defense attorney wants to test the officer's independent memory of the facts and match them against his previous testimony? Not a chance. The judge would laugh in the criminal defense attorney's face. Furthermore, if the testifying officer *didn't* refresh his memory by reading the transcript and testifying in a prepared and accurate manner, the Department would be the first one to discipline him for failing to prepare. Could a defense representative ask the chairman of a Board of Rights to order the Internal Affairs investigator not to consult his notes or previous testimony at a Board of Rights so the defense represen-

tative could test the IA investigator's independent memory? Again, not a chance. Will a civil court judge order one of our officer's being sued not to read a previous deposition transcript given by the officer prior to testifying so the plaintiff's attorney can test the officers independent memory? Never. Everyone in the criminal, civil and administrative systems would think such a request completely unfair to the testifying officer.

Yet, our officer who had the integrity to call his mistake to the Department's attention is treated like a third class citizen by the Head Hunter mentality that all too often crops up in the Department's investigations. Will the Department profit from this unfair tactic? No. The League will purchase the transcript from the court. It is, after all, a public record. The officer will get his chance to have a meaningful consultation with a League attorney. The only thing the Department will gain from this experience is another group of bitter and disgruntled officers who will be spreading the word on how unfair the Department treats its employees. Head hunting, in the long run, is seldom profitable for any organization.

A similar situation happened in another case. A promotion party being held in another jurisdiction ended up with the response of an outside agency. The outside agency decided to hold an investigation. Several of the LAPD officers accompanied the outside jurisdiction officers to their station and voluntarily gave video taped statements to the agencies investigators regarding the incident. Naturally, the Department ended up charging allegations of misconduct against several of the LAPD officers. Their interviews were scheduled several months after the incident. The officers requested access to the video taped interviews they had made to refresh their memories and properly prepare for their interviews. The Internal Affairs investigators, on orders from higher up, refused to allow the officers to review their tapes, even though the Department had the tapes in their possession. The officer's morale and their respect for the Department's investigative process nosedived. No matter what the ultimate outcome of the investigation, the officers and all of their friends would have a lasting impression of the Department's hypocritical stance; i.e., misconduct not to read your prior statement when giving a statement to a jury (even if someone might be executed as the result of your testimony), but denied your prior statement when giving a statement regarding a personnel complaint.

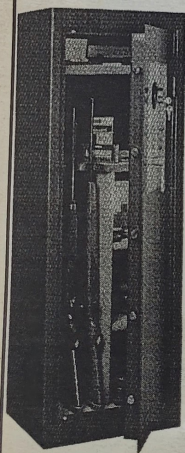
Head Hunting must be resisted. Most of the personnel complaint investigators will allow officers to read their prior testimony, or review any of the reports completed by the officer about the incident being investigated before the interview in the interest of obtaining the most accurate interview possible. A small minority of investigators will have the reports or testimony in their briefcases, but will not produce them until the officer or his representative demands them (mini-Head Hunting). When everything is laid on the table, however, the interviews proceed in an orderly manner and the officer will understand that the investigation is necessary and not have a feeling that he or she was treated unfairly. When the reports are refused, or the complaint investigator will not tell the officer the nature of the investigation, or lies about the purpose of the interview, conflict is inevitable and both the Department and the employee lose. The ultimate loser is the public.

When you feel the Head Hunter vibrations, you should hear *warning bells*. Terminate the interview and seek counsel with a League attorney. It is your right. Exercise it.

Be legally careful out there.

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Testimony Before the Police Commission Regarding Morale

Note: The below statements are from the transcripts of testimony of the Rampart Independent Review Panel committee members to the Police Commission given on January 27, 2001. The following are excerpts that deal with the panel members' findings concerning morale. Emphasis is added.

Mr. Carlton: Good afternoon. Eric and I are representing one of the two working groups that Rick referred to, the ethics, culture and communications working group.

Frankly, when we were given the assignment to take off on this, it was tough to get started. It's a very broad, mushy and amorphous concept. I hope and I believe that in the course of the investigations that we've done, we've brought some structure to it. But I want to summarize very briefly for you a little bit about what it is that we've done in the course of this, and then to hit a few broad themes that were generated by our investigation.

First of all, our working group, which consisted of a good number of people besides Eric and I, conducted almost 120 personal interviews of various individuals. These included 61 interviews anonymously conducted of officers randomly selected in each of the bureaus of the department.

We conducted interviews of command staff, including Chief Parks, Deputy Chief Pomeroy, and others. We interviewed training staff, included doctor Robin Green and others. We interviewed civilian LAPD employees, members of the representatives of the Police Protective League, community leaders, Neighborhood Watch groups, and representatives of a number of other police departments.

In addition, we conducted a series of focus groups for teenagers in various areas of the city. We attended certain community meetings and we reviewed what, in hindsight, was a vast amount of materials having to do with training, academic literature on ethics, materials utilized by other departments and what not.

I want to then get to the last of the things that our working group did in order to generate information that we could use for our task, and that is a survey that was prepared and conducted with the invaluable assistance of Price, Waterhouse, Coopers, and this was a survey that was put together to get a relatively objective gauge of the attitudes of police officers on various issues. And it consisted of 60 or 70 questions seeking their opinions as to whether they agree, disagree, strongly disagree with various ethical issues facing them.

There were a number of questions in which they were asked to rate certain things, what their different loyalties were to the department, to themselves, to the community, to rate misconduct. They were asked to reveal whether they knew of anyone in the department who had been involved with certain kinds of misconduct. And then they were also asked at the end of the survey to respond in an open-ended narrative way to several questions that were posed to them. Frankly, we didn't expect, and we were told not to expect, that we would get much of a response to those narrative questions.

Mr. Carlton: We explored various mechanisms for getting this thing distributed, and that was the best we could come up with. The result was that we received 2,167 survey responses, which is really a substantial response, certainly statistically significant.

But beyond that, beyond the survey responses, the numerical responses that we received, we received what turned into 500 pages, single-spaced, of handwritten comments to the open-ended questions at the end of the survey. This was far beyond what anybody expected. It took actually quite a long time to review and evaluate these, and I will not sit here today and tell you that we have thoroughly analyzed the results of the survey or that we have completely analyzed the results of these comments. And I would encourage the commission and the department to take advantage of this information which we believe is a substantial and important resource in managing the department—or can be used that way.

That in sum is what we did. That's how we generated information. I should say that the interviews that we conducted, anonymous interviews of officers, we were led to believe also, prior to embarking on those, that officers wouldn't speak with us; that we were outsiders; that we wouldn't be trusted, and that we were not likely to get much in the way of comment from any of the officers. What we found was exactly the opposite. And again, I want to commend the department for making officers available in a ready and easy way.

What we found was officers couldn't wait to talk with us. Many of them didn't particularly care if the interviews were conducted anonymously.

Mr. Carlton: From these interviews, from the survey and the survey responses that we got, there was one compelling message that loomed above all of the other information that we received, and what we learned was that this is a department with—or at least during the period that we were looking at it, between April and the end of August—this is a department whose morale was in virtual free-fall.

We were told that personally. It's reflected in the numerical survey responses. It's reflected in the handwritten comments that I, again, encourage you to look at. You let your eye drop at any point in any of these pages and you will see a direct reflection of that low morale.

In the survey, one of the strongest ratings of agreement was in response to the question as to whether the morale of the department was declining. Over 40 percent of the open-ended responses identified the current culture of the LAPD as one of poor morale. In other words, when asked to simply give a description of the culture of the LAPD, poor morale was the frequent response. Only 3.2 percent of the respondents said there's good morale within the department, and this is reflected in the nature of the comments:

"This department has deteriorated from the finest to just another ineffective, big-city police department. Pride, integrity and morale have never been lower." That is a typical comment.

"Morale has steadily declined. The department is so young now, most don't know how good we once were. Now we're a sad shadow of what we had been," another typical comment.

Now the reasons for this are, as you might imagine, many and varied. There are a lot of reasons. But the primary reasons were not what I think some of us expected going into this. People did not cite the difficulties of the job. They didn't cite the stress that they were undergoing on the job. They didn't talk about conflict with the community, and they didn't talk about

conflict with the media as being the driving forces in lowering the morale of the officers.

The most commonly given reason for low morale had to do with problems internal to the department. There was a widespread perception among officers that management does not listen to them, does not trust them, and does not care about them.

Among the strongest agreements on the survey were that lowered morale was most affected by mismanagement. Among the strongest disagreements on the survey was that management of LAPD effectively and appropriately communicates with its employees. More than 32 percent of the open-ended responses to a question as to "what could be done to improve morale" involved making changes within management.

Typical of the responses along these lines are these: "The senior management believes that morale is not the department's problem. They don't know anything of their employees and they do not care."

"We are all adults. I resent being micromanaged every day I'm at work."

"Change the leadership philosophy from control and contain and punish and concern, to create, liberate, support, serve, and set the example."

"I did not become a police officer to be hated by my own management." I expected it from the public, but not by my own department."

"The motto of LAPD should be changed to the beatings and beheadings will continue until morale improves." Now, that quote is poignant and it's colorful and it is not alone in the emotion that it conveys.

Mr. Carlton: That, in a general way, expresses the officers' low morale and their problem with management. But that same problem is focused very specifically in several areas, the most important of which what we came across—and we came across it immediately from the first interview that we had, right through to the end, and that is reflected in dissatisfaction with the discipline system, the 1.28 discipline system.

There was virtual unanimity among the officers of the rank of lieutenant and below with whom we spoke that they were angry about this disciplinary sys-

tem. More than 32 percent of the responses to our open-ended questions regarded things to do to improve morale said revamp the discipline system.

The system—and I won't go into great detail about it here, because you have had already a long presentation about it—but it is perceived by a huge section of the rank and file as being unfair. It diverts resources from law enforcement-related areas. And then something that became very clear in the course of our work, it undermines observational police work.

We were told this by people we talked to, which we found rather surprising, although I have to say that when speaking with people about this issue, most of them knew someone who had slacked off on their observational police work in order to avoid possible contacts with civilians that might result in the filing of disciplinary complaints. But in the written responses to the survey, many people acknowledged that, in fact, they were doing the same thing.

Again, typical comments are as follows: "The way I see it, a field officer is crazy to go out and do proactive police work. The days of proactive observation, officer-initiated arrests are quickly becoming a thing of the past. Why would any officer risk doing anything other than what is required of him?" "The 1.28 system is unfair. I tried not to do one proactive thing while on patrol just so I can stay out of trouble." "I know the less contact I have with criminals the better chance I have of keeping my employee package clean. It's not fair to the public I protect, but I also have a family to feed. I refuse to lose my job because some gang member or parolee says I planted drugs on them."

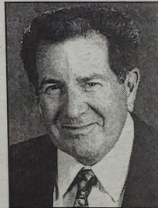
Mr. Carlton: But that in sum is what our working group found about the department's morale. The low morale stood out as the most vivid message that we received from everything we did. There were other causes beyond problems with management—low pay, lack of a compressed work week and what have you—but the alienation between line officers and management was an unavoidable theme of virtually everything that we learned.

(Submitted by Gary Ingemumson) ♦

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters To The Editor is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. Letters must be limited to 350 words or less. Letters over the limit will be returned for editing by the writer. Deadline for submission is the 6th of the month for the following month's issue date.

"Here's What Happened to a Loyal LAPD Family at the Hands of our 'Police Relief'"

Dear Fellow Police Officers and Personnel:

My name is Chris Martinez. I am an 11-year veteran of the Los Angeles Police Department. My father retired as a sergeant in July, 1999, after 25 years of service. My brother, Paul, is assigned to Northeast Division. As you can see, we have devoted our lives to public service and to the Los Angeles Police Department.

Given our family's devotion to the Department and to duty, I did not take my decision to write this letter lightly. Though these things are not easy to say, the circumstances which led me to this point were appalling and the issues are important. We were deceived and demeaned by the very people who were supposed to protect and serve loyal police officers like us and the families we cherish.

Our nightmare began in the latter part of September, 2000. My mom was

diagnosed with cancer. The doctor uttered those dreaded words, "You have about six months to live." They ran through our ears. He then said, "We suggest you go home and live the rest of your life to the fullest." My family was devastated, but that was only the first blow.

Looking for hope, we did everything we could to save my mother. We consulted with other specialists and doctors at the City of Hope. The doctors told us that there were treatments they could provide which could possibly save my other. There was one catch, my parents' insurance carrier was Kaiser. In order for treatment to begin at City of Hope, they would have to shift their coverage to Blue Cross.

We cleared the first hurdle when Blue Cross advised us that it was more than willing to take over my mother's case. Since the shift had to be made between open enrollment periods, we contacted LAPRA for assistance. This was a life threatening and catastrophic event. Time was of the essence. Every day my

mother's illness was getting worse. Then, the second phase of our nightmare began.

We were put in touch with Retired Commander Tim McBride, the current President of LAPRA. Mr. McBride advised us that we had to forward all doctors' notes, reports, and correspondence regarding my mother's condition before my parents would be permitted to change insurance carriers. He would then submit this information to a Board for approval.

After complying with McBride's request, he coldly turned us down stating that when he contacted Kaiser they had informed him that my mother "wasn't that bad." We were flabbergasted. He then declared that we could only change insurance carriers during open enrollment in April. This would be too late according to second and third opinions from City of Hope to USC-Norris Cancer Research, for my mother. She was becoming very ill and might very well die before we could switch my parents' coverage.

After four weeks of bureaucratic wrangling, McBride would not budge. Finally, we implored Mr. McBride to meet with us and on January 29, 2001, a meeting was set so that we could state our case to him in person. We could not understand why this was taking so long. We weren't asking for anything exceptional, given that many other fellow officers in the same circumstance had been able to change insurance carriers between enrollment periods. Why couldn't we? The guidelines of the Police Relief regarding medical coverage permitted a change in carriers between enrollment periods if the transfer of benefits was in the best interest of the patient. Clearly, in my mother's case, there were additional exigent circumstances which justified an immediate transfer.

Finally, at the end of the meeting, McBride looked up and said, "Okay, okay, I'll change the insurance carrier." We almost fell to the floor in disbelief. After all this time of being told that this matter had to go to a "board" for review, McBride had the power all along. Perhaps he finally took the time to read the information we provided him. This ordeal had been completely unnecessary. Had his judgment been clearer and his attention more focused, we would have received the remedy we requested in a timely fashion. As it was, the treatment we received was horrendous.

My mother is doing better now. She is getting care through the City of Hope and we are praying for her complete recovery. Many officers are in similar situations. My advice to you is to get other opinions, investigate alternative treatments and to fight for your right to receive the insurance coverage you need to carry it out. Unfortunately it seems that LAPRA only listens when we scream. Let's hope things improve.

Thank you, on behalf of the Martinez family.

Officer C. Martinez
(Retired) Sgt. J. Martinez

To: lapdonline@earthlink.net
Subject: Hi there.

I am a 26-year-old police officer from the UK and I am currently looking for a net pal who is a police officer from the U.S., and I thought the LAPD would be a good place to start. I have been in the job for 10 months now (rookie I think you'd call it), and I think it would be great to swap info and chat about the job, etc.

Anyone interested? Please drop me a line.

Thank you for reading this.

From: kidkev@talk21.com

Dear Editor:

Mayoral Candidate Kathleen Connell
(During a recent mayoral candidate debate regarding the LAPD, State Controller Kathleen Connell stated, "The LAPD has failed the citizens of Los Angeles." I sent the following letter to the *L.A. Times*.)

I find it outrageous that Kathleen Connell would label the entire 9322 sworn personnel as a failure. The men and women of the LAPD are hard working, dedicated officers, detectives, and supervisors, who serve the citizens of Los Angeles with pride. Kathleen, the 18 recipients of the Medal of Valor, did not fail the citizens. The 155 officers, detectives, and supervisors recognized for their heroism and community service did not fail the citizens. The thousands of men and women who would give their life to protect every citizen of Los Angeles did not fail the community. Yes, there have been failures within the LAPD, but do not blame all the men and women of the Department. Perhaps, the public should be aware that you (Kathleen Connell) addressed the Los Angeles Police Department League Delegation Meeting. I find it funny that during that address and seeking the Police Department's endorsement that you did not call the men and women of the LAPD failures.

Please, do not endorse Kathleen Connell as our next mayor.

Sincerely,
Sgt. Pete Casey
IAG, South Section

Dear Editor:

Hi, I'm an Italian policeman! My name is Max and I live and work in Rome. I work on the road (RMP) in the east-side of the capital, in the 5th police station, in Rome is "Commissariato di Polizia di Stato Sezionale Coordinatore S. Basilio."

I would write to a U.S. (L.A. policeman - men and women) for an exchange of ideas and, if is possible, materials about our job in our countries! Scuse me for my bad English, I want learn your language!

Regoli Massimo
soldatino@massimomail.it (soldatino)

Dear LAPPL:

In response to the February 10, 2001, *Los Angeles Times* Valley Edition article, "Parks Agrees to Establish

END OF WATCH



NAME: Charles V. Cavanaugh #2734
RANK: Sergeant
ASSIGNED TO: West Valley
BORN: June 5, 1919
APPOINTED: April 13, 1942
RETIRED: April 28, 1968
DIED: February 7, 2001

★ ★ ★

NAME: Harvey R. McAllister #5007
RANK: Sergeant I+2
ASSIGNED TO: Central Traffic Division
BORN: September 30, 1920
APPOINTED: October 16, 1947
RETIRED: January 6, 1974
DIED: February 10, 2001

★ ★ ★

NAME: Paul A. Trautman #2891
RANK: Lieutenant
ASSIGNED TO: Police Commission
BORN: December 30, 1918
APPOINTED: May 25, 1942
RETIRED: July 9, 1972
DIED: February 10, 2001

★ ★ ★

NAME: Lloyd M. Shriner #4086
RANK: Policeman
ASSIGNED TO: Training
BORN: February 14, 1919
APPOINTED: October 16, 1946
RETIRED: September 17, 1966
DIED: February 12, 2001

★ ★ ★

NAME: Robert E. Bills #7199
RANK: Police Officer II+2
ASSIGNED TO: West Traffic Division
BORN: November 13, 1928
APPOINTED: May 17, 1954
RETIRED: October 6, 1979
DIED: March 7, 2001

✱

NAME: Anna D. Storms
(No Serial # found)
RANK: Policewoman/Sergeant
ASSIGNED TO: Personnel
BORN: No Birth Date Found
APPOINTED: January 5, 1944
RETIRED: July 26, 1966
DIED: February 12, 2001

★ ★ ★

NAME: William G. Rohm #4388
RANK: Policeman
ASSIGNED TO: Valley Services
BORN: May 17, 1925
APPOINTED: March 17, 1947
RETIRED: July 3, 1967
DIED: February 17, 2001

★ ★ ★

NAME: Everett E. Cummins #4577
RANK: Investigator II
ASSIGNED TO: Intelligence
BORN: January 31, 1918
APPOINTED: June 16, 1947
RETIRED: June 27, 1972
DIED: February 18, 2001

★ ★ ★

NAME: Robert J. Hammond #5497
RANK: Policeman
ASSIGNED TO: Traffic Services
BORN: October 19, 1923
APPOINTED: April 26, 1948
RETIRED: July 14, 1968
DIED: February 26, 2001

★ ★ ★

Anonymous For Fear of Retaliation

Editor's Note: These letters reflect a small portion of the communications we have received from officers who are concerned that the expression of their views may result in retaliation from management.

The Inspector General's report is out. Chief Bernard Parks is a complete liar. He made false and misleading statements to the Inspector General. The guy liked to cover up his own mistakes. I urge the League not to let him get away with this. Parks has fired hundreds of officers for false and misleading statements. Now he is one who is caught lying on an official investigation. Parks needs to be fired and held to the same standards as the working officers of this police department. I also urge you to make sure he gets a Brady letter put in his package because he is not fit to testify in court.

The L.A. Times article also talked about members of the Command Staff who wrote letters to the Inspector General and the courts saying that the Chief was fully cooperating with the D.A.'s office. This too was false and misleading. Each captain and above who wrote these false and misleading letters should be placed in front of a board and fired as well. The Brady letter should be placed in their packages right this second, then they should be sent to a board for termination.

It is time to hold the Chief and the Command Staff to the same standards of discipline as the working patrol officers. If hundreds of guys have lost their jobs for lying on an official investigation, then Parks and his cronies should expect the same punishment. I sure hope the League does not back down. Remember what the Mayor and city did to old Willie for his free Vegas trips. Parks' scandal is ten times worse. He is a perjuror!

From Anonymous

PLEASE KEEP THIS ANONYMOUS FOR FEAR OF RETALIATION

Dear Editor:

As I watched today's interview with Chief Parks on NBC, I was wondering when will he be getting his Brady letter for lying. How could he expect people to believe that the very meeting he was at with the mayor and other non-elected officials and the same meeting where it was supposedly decided to fire the President of the Police Commission (not that I'm upset about that), but that he didn't know anything about it until that Monday when he was out of town? Sounds like one of those "should have known deals." I feel embarrassed that he makes it sound like there is not a problem to all the citizens who hopefully see the big picture and realize there is a serious problem with public safety. Also I hope the LAPPL takes an aggressive stance to show the public that he has been handed a study that shows a CWS will work for everyone, especially the citizens, because according to the chief the citizens will suffer under a CWS.

Obvious Observations

(to be published anonymously)

It is interesting to look at the past major events handled by officers of the Los Angeles Police Department.

To a casual observer there seems to be trends that point to some obvious conclusions. Well, obvious for those willing to see the obvious (which obviously excludes certain ranks). Look at the Lakers' victory "celebration" and the Democratic National Convention, for example.

The Lakers victory "celebration," which looked ominously like a riot with the burning of cars, stores, and pandemonium on the streets, was the result of a "breakdown in command." The phrase "breakdown in command" can be loosely defined as a "catastrophic lack of." Any supervisor at the scene can testify to the lack of organization and leadership at the incident, from the command post on up. Any time you have anarchy, while hundreds of officers are standing by, ready to rock and roll, it points to one problem—command.

So let's look at the flip side. In the end, the Los Angeles Police Department prevailed. Why? Because the officers and supervisors in the field, the ground pounders, the P-2 dogs, the "backbone of the Department" made it happen. Despite being hobbled by the lack of command, officers and supervisors ultimately took care of business.

Well, how about the Democratic National Convention? Without a doubt a major victory for the LAPD. I found it interesting that after a year-and-a-half of planning by the DNC, the vast majority of the problems were not in the DNC security zone but in the city proper and did not appear planned for by the DNC. These problems were not handled by DNC personnel or DNC command, but by MFFs and other officers assembled in the last few months leading up to the event under the command of OCB (hats off to OCB for handling the situations the way they did). In fact it was later found that DNC command would not give up officers to support operations in the city, despite the fact that they were over-deployed.

Despite the command problems, it came down to the same thing—officers on the ground took the streets hard and fast, and everybody knew it. While the DNC command post was literally having an ice cream social, officers were standing the line, working harder than could have ever been asked and showing why LAPD is still a department of distinction. Make no mistake, the LAPD won the day, and we won it with the officers and supervisors on the ground.

The point is this—no matter what the "command staff" might think, this is not their Department. They are not the ones that make this Department great. In fact, many times it seems that they do just the opposite. Nothing can take away from the fact that it is the officers of the LAPD that make the Department what it is. When the chips are down, officers in the field, on the ground, standing on the front line, pick up the slack left by befuddled "command," and make it happen.

It is our Department to take back and make great again.

continued from page 12

Disciplinary Guidelines." I feel compelled to address certain statements made by my boss, Chief Bernard Parks. As a 13-year female veteran of the Department, I know firsthand what it is like to have been unfairly disciplined for reporting command staff misconduct. Chief Parks' statement that, "Some people perceive others are being treated differently" is exactly why Chief Parks should be held accountable for his own misleading statements.

The surveys, complaint system, continuing lawsuits and internal complaints brought against the department from rank-and-file officers, blow the Chief's words "some people" and "perceive" right out of the water. It should be yet another reason to judge not perceive the infamous Chief's legacy. Let us not forget that in the not so distant past Chief Parks stated he was not responsible for the morale of his own officers. There is a continuous catchall departmental disciplinary allegation that is selectively used against rank-and-file officers that reads like a well-thought poem "You (officer) should have known or had knowledge of..."

Chief Parks not only had the knowledge but the ultimate power to stop the misuse of discipline. It has been proven that discipline was, and is still, used as a tool by upper management to silence, harass, retaliate and put the fear of God into any officer that attempts to report misconduct or any wrongdoing against well-connected and/or high ranking officers.

There is also another systemic disciplinary tactic that has been selectively used and now should be correctly applied to hold Chief Parks and certain department leaders accountable and appropriately disciplined. It is called a "pattern of conduct." The tax paying citizens of this city should never have been held monetarily responsible for Chief Parks' pattern of conduct that resulted in the crisis of the Los Angeles Police Department. The citizens of this city need to stand up along with the rank-and-file officers to demand the change in police leadership. The "preference over policy" backdoor tactics and practices that are designed to target and assassinate officer careers are the same maneuvering methods used to conceal upper management misconduct within the Los Angeles Police Department.

Any Los Angeles Police Officer with integrity expects to be disciplined for doing something wrong, but no officer should stand by and expect to be disciplined for doing something right as in reporting command staff misconduct. The time is now for the rank and file to speak out in numbers and names to anyone who will listen with a fair and impartial ear. Chief Parks, along with select command officers, continually

have escaped discipline because of their rank and ability to instill fear (yes, fear!) amongst lower ranking officers. They are responsible for creating new ways and perpetuating the old ways of unfair, biased and vindictive internal discipline.

I can only commend Mayor Riordan and other city officials who have publicly acknowledged these serious concerns and challenged department leaders to act. I truly believe in order to reestablish the trust and respect of the citizens, rank-and-file officers have to be enabled to do their jobs and in good faith report corruption and wrongdoing without the fear of retaliation... no matter what the rank.

The first step would be for just one high ranking, well connected officer to have the courage to break the cycle and tell the truth about the past practice of Chief Parks and certain command staff officers known as the "UNTOUCHABLES." That one lone officer that can take off the "DEPARTMENT HAT" we all know was given to him or her by Bernard Parks, may well be the one in the future we can truly call "Chief."

Johnneen Jones, #25885

Last month in *Blue Line* End of Watch you listed Rod Murchison (or Mer), #6591 or #6589. He sat next to my husband, Richard L. Morgan, in the Academy. They were friends. In fact this past April we went to Lido Life looking for them. What I was writing about was in the Bel Aire Fire there was ONE of the GREAT pictures ever of Rod on the cover of *Life* Magazine and it should be put in the *Blue Line*. It would make everyone feel good about the past and present officers. We had the magazine for years but don't now, but I'd think his wife would or at least *Life* will have it. Thank you.

Minnie Morgan

Dear Blue Line:

I received my issue of the *Blue Line* today and enjoyed reading the article on Det. Joe Chandler. I am still saddened that he has passed from our ranks, but I know that his wife, Madeline, and daughter, Cheryl, are extremely proud of Joe's accomplishments and contributions to our department. I remember Joe when I was a young probationer at Central Division out of PAB in 1971 when we were working with guys like Grant Knechtel, Pat Stewart, Dick Halligan, Fred Ponzo, and others that I could go on mentioning. Joe was a good policeman and a fine gentleman. Thank you again for a good article on Joe.

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

For Your Information is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. We encourage you to submit articles for publication. Deadline for submission is the 6th of the month for the following month's issue date.

SWAT Team Goes the Extra Mile to Help Fulfill Disabled Kids' Dreams

(Copyright Sunday, March 4, 2001 - Los Angeles Times - Reprinted by permission)

by Sandy Banks

Never mind that more than 20,000 runners will be jostling this morning for space at the start of the Los Angeles Marathon. I don't imagine Johnny Garcia will be hard to spot.

He'll be the grinning 15-year-old in the wheelchair—head bobbing, arms waving—being pushed along the 26-mile course by a phalanx of cops, clad in tank tops bearing the logo of the LAPD SWAT team.

It will be as close as Johnny will ever come to running, as close as he'll ever get to his dream of becoming a police officer.

And it will also be a glimpse of true bravery for the city's crime-fighting elite—men who face danger daily and never flinch but never had to carry the kind of burden that comes from knowing you might never be able to stand on your own two feet.

You might call Orthopaedic Hospital the equivalent of a Special Weapons and Tactics team for children with crippling disabilities. They're the specialists, loaded with the firepower and expertise to treat the most serious bone, muscle and joint diseases.

In 1994, the SWAT team adopted the hospital and began hosting annual holiday parties and toy giveaways, picnics and trips to Dodger games. Eventually, officers began dropping by the hospital

to visit patients.

"The morale boost from that was incredible," says Mary Beth McKee, the hospital's director of development. "Here's a kid who's feeling pretty down, stuck in bed, will never walk. And here's this big guy from SWAT and he likes me, he wants to spend time with me. These guys became their heroes."

Four years ago, the officers decided to do more. They would use their run in Southern California's annual law enforcement race—the 120-mile Baker-Vegas relay—to raise money for the hospital. They would each run a portion of the race in full regalia—tactical vests, boots, about 40 pounds of gear, to symbolize carrying the hopes and aspirations of Orthopaedic's kids.

For Orthopaedic, the \$50,000 the SWAT team raised was more than a goodwill gesture, it was part of the hospital's lifeblood. As it has for all of its 90 years, Orthopaedic relies on donations and grants for most of its budget, which now runs about \$6.5 million a year. Doctors volunteer their time, and the hospital will not turn away a child whose family cannot pay.

More than 12,000 kids—most from poor families—visit the hospital each year, needing treatment for everything from broken arms to bone cancer to chronic, disabling conditions like arthritis or cerebral palsy. Many, like Johnny, spend years in the hospital's care.

Johnny was born with cerebral palsy, mildly brain-damaged and unable to control his arms and legs. At 5, "he

couldn't stand, he couldn't sit alone, someone had to do everything for him," recalls his mother, Carmen Garcia.

In the last ten years, he has endured 18 surgeries and hundreds of therapy sessions. Now, he can sit comfortably in a wheelchair and walk, haltingly, with the aid of a walker. "It has been like a miracle"—not just for Johnny, but for his family, his mother says. "Now he bathes himself, he goes to the bathroom, he can feed himself." But surgery and therapy have taken Johnny about as far as he can go medically, said his doctor, Wilfred Krom. "The rest," he said, "depends on will."

Many kids Johnny's age wind up giving in to the pain and frustration of their ailments, as their growing bodies make the challenge of controlling balky limbs more difficult. They begin to lose ground; exhaustion forces them back into their wheelchairs.

"For Johnny, we want this to be a beginning," not an end, his mother says. "He still has many dreams."

That makes today's race not just a means of raising money for a needy cause, but also a way to raise the bar for a needy kid. Johnny might never run a footrace on his own, but he will always remember the chorus of big men who taught him what it feels like to run with a crowd.

It may have been something they once did on boss' orders: Time for community service, guys. Go hang out with some crippled kids. Do something good that doesn't involve a gun and a badge.

But it's clear that this marriage

between cops and kids has brought something special to lives on both sides.

"Yeah, it's a nice thing for the department to do, but it's gone way beyond that," says SWAT officer Enrique Anzaldo. "Most of us don't spend much time thinking about how lucky we are. We've got our jobs, our families, whatever problems we think we have."

"You look at these kids, at their families, how much they appreciate the smallest things we do. Sometimes at the Christmas party, I have to stop and take a deep breath . . . I think about the courage they show every day."

When Anzaldo ran the marathon last year, he passed dozens of runners pushing wheelchairs, raising money for one cause or another. Later, talking in the locker room with his sergeant and his partner, Jaime Rubalcava, the idea came up: "Why don't we run the marathon for the kids? We pitched it to the lieutenant, and it went from three guys to 26 in a heartbeat."

Today, 26 SWAT officers will take turns pushing Johnny along the marathon route, one mile each. "He's a big kid," says Lt. Mike Albanese, with a chuckle. "So I don't imagine it'll be easy."

"But the fact is, we might be sore, but we're going to walk away when it's done. The real story is this kid, having a dream for a little while, at least, giving us a chance to bring that dream to life."

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Surviving Civil Suits

by Sgt. Bill Heard

Imagine you are working a specialized detail and are conducting a "routine" traffic stop in a drug-infested neighborhood. You have some considerable experience in the narcotics field, and have made hundreds of arrests for "under the influence". The driver exhibits signs and symptoms of "being under the influence" of cocaine so you ask him, and his passenger, to exit the vehicle. As the first handcuff goes on the suspect's wrist, he attempts to break away, and the fight is on. Fortunately, you and your partner had trained for such an eventuality, and after pinning the suspect to the ground, and spraying him with O.C., the fight is over.

Afterwards the suspect is apologetic, he tried to escape because he had a misdemeanor warrant, however, after running the suspect for "wants" you discover that no such warrant exists. Obviously the suspect was trying to get away for some other reason, however, that reason is not immediately obvious to you or your partner. Two thorough searches of his clothing fail to reveal any contraband. Another unit arrives and transports the suspect, and passenger (who is also "under the influence" of cocaine) to the station while you impound the suspect's car. Inside the car you find nothing except two empty plastic containers with possible cocaine residue, which in itself, is not unusual for the area you work in.

Minutes later you arrive back at the station and observe the suspect lying on the hallway floor, convulsing from what you recognize as a cocaine overdose. Paramedics quickly transport the suspect to the hospital; however, within hours he dies from what the coroner would later describe as a massive cocaine overdose. The coroner further states that the death was "accidental". An investigation conducted by Robbery Homicide Division clears all of the officers involved, there is not even the usual "Monday morning quarterbacking" regarding training issues.

Jump forward several years; you are now being sued for civil rights violations (federal), battery (state), and negligence. The Plaintiff's Attorney has all the angles covered, you either forced the suspect to ingest cocaine, or you were negligent in the fact that you did not find the cocaine, therefore allowing the suspect to kill himself. You, your partner, and both transporting officers are the Defendants.

The Rampart scandal had only recently broken in the news, so the plaintiff's attorney is particularly venomous in his line of questioning. Of course you expected the questions about poor supervision, inadequate training, and the inevitable "race" card questions (the suspect was black, the involved officers are White and

Hispanic), however, you are distressed when the line of questioning turns to an eyewitness who alleges that you used a "stun gun" on the suspect.

Now you, and your colleagues, find yourself on trial in superior court. You have a very competent attorney, but this is Los Angeles, where jurors are known to resist obvious facts and evidence, and make decisions based on prejudices and emotion. During jury selection the Plaintiff's attorney dismisses all the Asians from the jury, except one (he ran out of choices). His opening statements, to the court, contain not one shred of evidence, but are full of innuendo, smear, smoke and mirrors. Not only did you kill the suspect, he alleges, but you also stole his money and covered up your action by invoking the so-called "code of silence." You are defamed as corrupt and dishonest, nothing more than "rogue cops", dishing out some "street justice". Mindful that there are four African Americans on the jury, the attorney invokes the image of Rodney King, and relentlessly plays the race card. Going into the trial, you were confident that a jury would be able to look at the evidence and come to a logical conclusion, however, it quickly becomes obvious that the Plaintiff's attorney expects you to pay for the sins of every other LAPD officer that has screwed up over the years. Suddenly, you find yourself on the wrong end of the eight ball.

Here are a few tips on how to fight back.

There's one thing you should learn from any civil trial: memorize, memorize, memorize your deposition statements! There is nothing worse than being impeached by your own statements. Your credibility, and value as a witness will go right ~ down the toilet. Also remember to memorize your reports, and any other documentary evidence that you will need to testify to. The judge will admonish the jury (during jury instructions), that if a juror feels that a witness is being untruthful or evasive, they can dismiss all of that witness's testimony.

Look professional, not only by wearing the appropriate attire, but also by adopting the appropriate demeanor. Remember that when you are not testifying the jury is still watching you. Making gestures and shaking your head during contentious or controversial testimony can appear unprofessional. Ideally, you should remain stoic anytime you are within the view of the jury - inside and outside of the courtroom.

The use of jargon can confuse the juror, and worse still can be used by the Plaintiff's attorney to paint you in a poor light. For example; we all know that a "war bag" is a police utility bag, but a smart attorney can throw that innocuous piece of police slang right back at you with a pointed, "War bag,

Officer! Are you at war with the community?" We also know what "booking the body" means, but in the context of a wrongful death lawsuit that phraseology can give the appearance of being cold and callous. When an officer testifies that he "ran the suspect down", we all know that at the end of a foot pursuit the suspect was taken into custody, however, a juror might assume that you literally ran the suspect down. So, try to avoid using jargon unless it has some benign meaning, or is universally accepted outside the police community.

When you testify, try to establish eye contact with the jury. This is one of the basic concepts of body language, and allows the jury to "warm" to you rather than view you as being aloof or unconcerned. Never allow an attorney to make you lose your temper on the stand. Moderate indignation is okay, but it can be a two edged sword also. Your testimony should be balanced by the desire to tell the jury the truth, but at the same time allowing the jury to empathize with you. Emotional testimony looks great in a movie, but rarely works in a real courtroom. Keep your answers short. The more you try to talk your way out of an attorney's question, the more ammunition you give them to open up other avenues of questioning. Be cordial toward your opponent. Good manners cost nothing but can pay huge dividends with the jurors. We all like to think that we are more of an expert than we really are, however, it is important not to try and testify beyond your area of expertise. A good attorney will set you up, and then let you fall on your own sword.

Defense attorneys love to use hypotheticals. These are often used to elicit

admissions from officers, that had they done things the way they were trained, then a certain act could, or would not have occurred. For example, "Officer, if you had handcuffed the defendant's hands behind his back the way you were trained, he could not have pulled narcotics out of his sock". Of course, there are so many variables in every situation, that there is no such thing as a realistic hypothetical situation. The difficulty in answering hypothetical questions, is not to negate your training, but to try and explain to the juror that police work is conducted in the real, not hypothetical, world. In this case, draw from your own experience - paint the jurors a realistic picture of police work.

Last but not least, mistakes! We all make them. Don't dig a deeper hole than the one you are in. Don't allow the Plaintiff's attorney to question your credibility by compounding your mistakes. Jurors are very adept at making the distinction between a mistake, and a falsehood. Your attorney is the only person who has the skill to minimize the damage you may have done. Hopefully, you will have a good attorney that can rehabilitate your testimony during re-direct.

Hopefully, in the end, everything will work out. You get to keep your house, cars and toys. We did. Although it was a traumatic experience, it certainly renewed my faith in the judicial system, which I must admit was severely biased due to experiences that were mostly anecdotal. By presenting ourselves as professional police officers, we were able to maintain the confidence of a jury of our peers, and ultimately enhance the image of the Los Angeles Police Department.

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Old Newton Station — A Very Sick Building

by Craig Miller
LAPD, Narcotics Division

I'm not a scientist, I'm a policeman. Our two professions do, however, share some traits in common. We both enjoy the pursuit of "the investigation" and we both can read. This is my point. Although a Master's degree in Industrial Hygiene is the preferred way to obtain credibility in matters of environmental dangers, a prolific reader's year-long work product on that subject is also worthy of consideration. With that in mind, please read on.

In 1981 I joined the LAPD and in 1988 I was assigned to the Newton Division Gang Detective Unit (CRASH). What a great job! It was a joy to come to work. I had fantastic partners—experienced supervisors and a professional comradeship that I will always treasure. Our shared adventures and difficulties made our cohesive group not only a fun association but a very effective unit as well.

One of the difficulties that all of the Newton Division employees (sworn and civilian) shared was the cramped facilities and dirty condition of the old station. The physical closeness did, however, bring great "people to people" interaction and long lasting friendships. Despite the best efforts of a diligent custodial staff, the old station was very dusty and there was often a noxious chemical odor permeating the structure. Respiratory illnesses were quite common.

Complaints were made, the Industrial Hygienist notified, inspections completed and remedial measures performed. The dust and odors always returned. As LAPD employees, our job was to impact crime. Our training and knowledge was directed towards that pursuit, not in environmental dangers and occupational diseases. What we dismissed as just the eccentric characteristics of an elderly police station (circa 1962) were in fact dangerous and potentially carcinogenic working conditions that should have been more affirmatively addressed.

Briefly explained, the problems are several. In 1993 an asbestos spill was discovered in the weight room. Investigation later revealed that the spill had been ongoing since the 1980s. The asbestos had become airborne and was potentially spread throughout the entire station. The form of asbestos found was Amosite. This fibrous substance is coated with iron oxide and was used to insulate heating pipes. It was a common building material until the mid-1970s when it was banned for indoor use. Research has shown that the iron oxide coating and the fiber length unique to Amosite make it a particularly dangerous form of asbestos.

A steam pipe in the weight room was coated with Amosite but it had been damaged and the asbestos became "friable dust" (airborne). Airborne Amosite dust is particularly dangerous because the fibers are so microscopic. Not only were they carcinogenic to the people who used the weight room but the fibers could be then transported through the

ventilation system and carried on the clothing of all those exposed. Amosite could have been taken home to our families. Cal/OSHA was finally notified (7/93) and they initiated "emergency" action. According to the report, the asbestos spill had been ongoing since the '80s.

For information on the potential hazards of taking asbestos home to family members—Title: "Mortality Experience of Family Contacts of Asbestos Factory Workers"; Authors: Joubert L. Seidman H, Selikoff IJ; Source: Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences, Vol. 643 and pages 416-418, 1991.

This hazardous material/carcinogenic exposure incident should have triggered the mandatory 15.7 documentation process. Medical Liaison verified that it did not.

The reason that I am concerned about asbestos is summarized in the following: "Asbestos fibers can cause serious health problems when they are inhaled or swallowed. When the microscopic asbestos fibers get inside your body, they can become trapped in bodily organs and lead to cancer and various non-malignant conditions. After being inhaled, the fibers can be cleared from the lungs and ingested. The fibers can also be distributed throughout the body from the lungs via the lymphatic system. Asbestos can cause lung cancer, asbestosis, mesothelioma, digestive tract cancer, colon cancer, larynx, kidney or esophagus. It has also been implicated in some types of lymphoma. Asbestos fibers cause damage to human cells by causing genetic "errors" in cell division that can lead to tumors in many bodily organs and regions." (www.raytonlaw.com/asbestos/)

Please also consider this quote: Findings of the National Institute for Occupational Health and Safety (NIOSH): The Centers for Disease Control Prevention (CDC) . . . which finds that "all levels of asbestos exposure studied to date have demonstrated asbestos-related disease" and "there is no level of exposure below which clinical effects do not occur." (Source: Asbestos Bibliography, "DHHS (NIOSH) Publication No. 97-162, p. 25 (1997)

The California EPA (Air Resources Board) concluded: "The ARB identified asbestos as a toxic air contaminant with no safe threshold level in 1986. . . . All forms of asbestos are harmful to human health." (www.arb.ca.gov)

Prior to this 1993 discovery, employees had been complaining of noxious odors permeating the station. In March,

1991, a 15.7 was submitted highlighting the concerns of 69 co-signing employees. Over two years later an inspection found that solvents were being stored in the station's ventilation fan room.

In 1988 the Newton Detective Squad made an excessive dust complaint. An investigation showed that the dust originated from the ventilation system. Dust testing was performed and the air filters were cleaned. The dust problem soon returned.

In 1996 a computer cable installation process required ceiling tile demolition. A dust cloud of airborne fibers permeated the station. Again tests were made and remedial measures were performed.

Respiratory and occupational illnesses should not be the reward for the dedicated ex-employees from the Old Newton Station, but I'm afraid that they may be. If there is any doubt as to the potential consequences of these environmental toxins, please ask those ex-Newton employees who have had bone marrow transplants in an effort to save themselves from the terminal effects of cancer.

By the end of the 1990s, the old LAPD Newton Station had been closed and a new one was built on Central Ave. near Martin Luther King Blvd. The old station still stands at 1354 Newton Street. It's boarded up, run down and covered with graffiti.

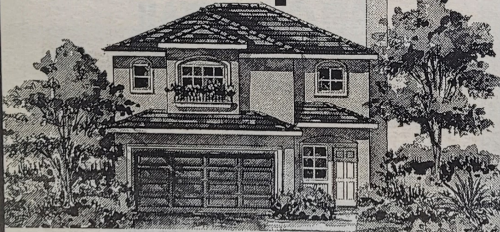
On 8/28/00, an abatement inspection was performed on the closed Old Newton Station. Several building deficiencies were noted in the report. The most compelling "building deficiency" was noted in a handwritten entry by the on-scene inspector. He wrote this one word—**asbestos**.

To my fellow "Newtonites": As we grow older our health must become a very important consideration in our future plans. We owe good health to our family, our loved ones and to ourselves. Good health is also crucial to our job performance with the LAPD. Regular physical checkups are a necessity to maintain our well being. Also important is a full knowledge of our health history and any toxic occupational exposures that we may have had. A complete medical profile is a crucial component as we assess any future medical decisions.

To all of the LAPD family . . . Stay healthy and be careful out there! To all of my friends from the Old Newton Station, it was a joy to work with you.

I'm not a scientist, but I can read. The Old Newton Station was a very sick building indeed!

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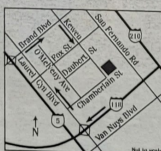
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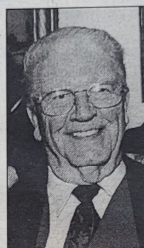


Chief Parker's Inspiration Lives On

by Sergeant Steve Williams
and Officer Dennis De Noi

As the William H. Parker Los Angeles Police Foundation approaches its 35th Anniversary, it has stirred our emotions and caused the Board to reflect on the life of Chief William H. Parker and the Foundation that was created in his memory and his many accomplishments.

Chief Parker was no ordinary Chief of Police. He was a remarkable police administrator, a firm disciplinarian



Mr. William F. Hertz,
Director of Public
Relations Mann Theatres,
President, William H.
Parker Los Angeles Police
Foundation

back to the people that have dedicated themselves to the Foundation over the last three decades. The first name that stands out is our current Board President, Mr. William F. Hertz.

Mr. Hertz has been on the Parker Foundation board for over 20 years. He has held every office on the board and has led the Foundation as President for over five years. A lot of the Foundation's success can be directly attributed to Mr. Hertz' leadership and vision. Mr. Hertz is also a full time business and family man. Mr. Hertz is the Director of Marketing and Public Relations for Westar/Mann Theatres. He started his career in theatre in 1939 in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he was attending the University of Minnesota. Mr. Hertz has worked for Fox West Coast Theatre throughout the greater Los Angeles area since the mid-1940's. Mr. Hertz' career took a short, but important detour during World War II. He served in the U.S. Army and completed tours in Africa and Italy.

Mr. Hertz served as the President of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce for two years and as a Chairman for 14 years on their world famous Walk of

Fame on Hollywood Boulevard. In fact, Mr. Hertz is one of the few recipients, outside the acting world, to have the honor of placing his hand and footprints in cement on the sidewalk in front of the Mann Chinese Theatre in Hollywood.

Mr. Hertz has a long and diverse record of community service and is very proud of his involvement with the Boys and Girls Club in Los Angeles.

Mr. Hertz strongly believes in the spirit and legacy of the Los Angeles Police Department and the dedicated men and women that risk their lives "to protect and to serve" the citizens of Los Angeles. Mr. Hertz' unselfish dedication to the Department and the Foundation is noteworthy. On behalf of all concerned, we extend our appreciation to Mr. Hertz and the other dedicated board members for a job well done.



Mr. Hertz in front of the Mann Chinese
Grauman Theatre in Hollywood, California.

We hope this article gives you an insight to the type of dedication our board members exhibit and their commitment to the Department.

The Parker Foundation website is consistently being updated and we invite you to visit us at:

www.lapdfoundation.com

The Parker Foundation would like you to keep us in mind for your annual charitable tax deductible donations.



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William H. Parker
Chief of Police (1950-1966)

Do I Want My Son to be a Policeman?

by Rabbi Aron Tendler

(The below is an invocation from Rabbi Aron Tendler. The invocation was presented at the Van Nuys Division Officer/Detective of the Year awards, held on Feb. 9, 2001, at the Mission Community Hospital.)

"I would like to first apologize to the women in the audience for the specific vernacular that I have chosen. However, the term police officer or person didn't quite accommodate my literary needs.

Do I want my son to grow up to be a policeman?

Do I want my son to be always dressed in blue?

Although it would make choosing his professional wardrobe a simpler to do, I would rather not always have to be dressed in blue.

Do I want my son to have to wear a gun?

Although a gun can protect and secure, it can also kill. I hope that my son will live without the fear of harm or the need for guns to protect and secure. So no, I would rather he not have to wear a gun.

Do I want my son to witness the dark and pain-filled side of human potential and the hopelessness that afflicts so many of our young?

No, I do not want my son to witness the dark and pain-filled side of human potential and the hopelessness that afflicts so many of our young. I would much rather he spend his days in the company of the holy, the pure, and the innocent.

Do I want my son to have to bid farewell to comrades slain in the line of duty?

Although life does not offer guarantees, I would rather he not have to suffer the loss and separation of a trusted comrade. How much nicer it would be to grow old along with trusted friends and comrades.

Do I want my son to say goodbye every morning not knowing whether he will return home healthy, or at all?

Again, although life never offers guarantees, I would like him to have a better chance at returning home every day to the embrace of his family and loved ones.

Do I want my son to be proud of himself, his family, his friends, his profession, and his country?

Yes I would like my son to be proud of himself, his family, his friends, his profession and his country.

Do I want my son to understand duty and responsibility even if at all times it demands personal pain and sacrifice?

Yes I want my son to understand duty and responsibility even if at all times it demands personal pain and sacrifice.

Do I want my son to represent law and justice for all people, regardless of color, race, or religion?

Yes, I want my son to represent law and justice for all people, regardless of color, race, or religion.

Do I want my son to reflect dignity and compassion caring and service in everything he does and everything he is?

Yes, I want my son to reflect dignity and compassion caring and service in everything he does and everything he is.

Do I want my son to greet each day with a sense of passion and duty?

Yes, I want my son to greet each day with a sense of passion and duty.

Do I want my son to cherish and protect every living moment because he understands how precious every life is?

Yes, I want my son to cherish and protect every living moment because he understands how precious every life is.

Do I want my son to reflect the grandeur and nobility of the human spirit as it soars to the highest pinnacles of courage, compassion, and devotion?

To answer my question, do I want my son to grow up to be a policeman?

No, I personally would not want my son to grow up to be a policeman.

However, I would be very proud of my son if he grew up to be just like a policeman.

May God bless you and keep you safe always."

Where Are Our Leaders?

by Sgt. Robert Lisenby
Training Division

In my last article I provided some quotes from Capt. James F. Kelly, Jr., U.S. Navy (retired), about identifying leaders and characteristics of leadership. Capt. Kelly is a 30-year Navy veteran who had four commands during his career. He has a master's degree in management and a doctorate in leadership. While his article in the January, 2001, issue of the U.S. Naval Institute *Proceedings* is primarily intended for members of the military services, and specifically the U.S. Navy, I think you can see the direct parallel between leadership in the Navy and the Los Angeles Police Department. In fact, the principals of leadership generally apply in any organization. Our Department has adapted the West Point Leadership Program for our use. It is an excellent program that I highly recommend to all officers wishing to improve their leadership skills.

In Capt. Kelly's article, he is attempting to encourage a better way to identify and develop new leaders to meet the challenges of the future. However, it is not enough to just identify potential leaders. Efficient organizations must also purge cronyism. Here is what Capt. Kelly has to say about that issue.

Purge Cronyism

In the past, a number of senior Navy officers got ahead primarily by maintaining fierce loyalty to a powerful sponsor and establishing themselves as mem-

bers of an exclusive team, often following the mentor to subsequent assignments. In such relationships, loyalty and responsibility sometimes become distorted and allegiance flows only upward. In addition, a sort of elite class of naval officer emerges, made up of those who by faithful and loyal service have earned the confidence and gratitude of a very senior person. As a result, loyalty is sometimes rewarded over experience and competence, and in too many instances, officers are selected on the basis of for whom they have worked. It places a favored few in positions of great advantage, and it amounts to cronyism.

Any hint of cronyism or patronage destroys our people's faith in the fairness of the selection and assignment systems. It fuels the perception that it is not so much what you have done or can do that matters as much as it is for whom you have done it. There is no room for personality cults in the Navy. Service on the personal staff of a flag officer should never entitle an officer to special career consideration or influence.

It is my sincere hope that every member of our Department who wishes to improve our leadership and professionalism will take Capt. Kelly's remarks to heart. The future of the Department is quality of the leaders we develop and place in positions of authority.

If anyone would like to read the full text of Capt. Kelly's *Proceedings* article, please contact me at Training Division, and I will be happy to provide one.

More For Your Information on next page



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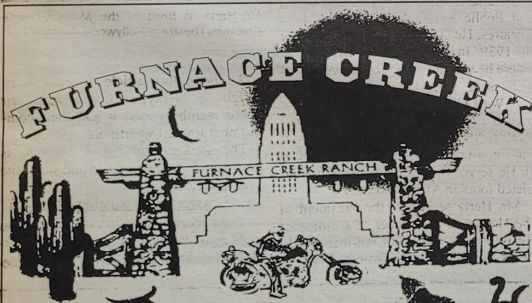
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WHEN: May 4, 5 & 6, 2001

LEAVES: Devonshire Station

TIME: 0800 hours

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PADM 388 – Statistics

SUMMER

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PADM 489 – Research Methodology in Government
PADM 499 – Senior Seminar/ Project

FALL

PADM 469 – Management of Change & Conflict
PADM 470 – Administrative Processes
PADM 499 – Senior Seminar/ Project

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P.O.S.T. Training Update

Training Division has begun the classes for the POST Bonus for July 2001, and training should conclude on April 17, 2001.

This session will qualify officers for the 3% percent pay raise as negotiated in our recent contract.

Officers will still have to possess either an Intermediate or Advanced POST Certificate to obtain this POST incentive money.

The following is an upcoming schedule for this POST training.

POST TRAINING Bureaus by Training Dates

DEPLOYMENT PERIOD NO. 3

| | | |
|-------------|-----------------------|-----|
| Apr 2/Apr 3 | Field Enforcement Div | OHB |
| Apr 2/Apr 3 | Major Violators Div | OHB |
| Apr 2/Apr 3 | Narcotics Div | OHB |
| Apr 4/Apr 5 | Metropolitan Div | OHB |
| Apr 4/Apr 5 | Uniform Service Div | OHB |
| Apr 4/Apr 5 | Uniform Service Grp | OHB |

DEPLOYMENT PERIOD NO. 4

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------|-----|
| Apr 9/Apr 10 | Newton Div | OHB |
| Apr 11/Apr 12 | Devonshire Div | OHB |
| Apr 16/Apr 17 | Air Support Div | OHB |
| Apr 16/Apr 17 | Transit Bus | OHB |
| Apr 16/Apr 17 | Transit Grp | OHB |
| Apr 16/Apr 17 | Transit Rail | OHB |

Requirements for POST Certificates

CONTINUING EDUCATION DIVISION

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT POST LIAISON UNIT

(213) 485-3149

Education Points

One semester unit equals one education point and one quarter unit equals two-thirds of a semester unit.

For Intermediate Certificate

| | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|-----------|-----------------|
| Minimum education points, semester units/degrees | 15 | 30 | 45 | AA Degree | BA or BS Degree |
| Years of Law Enforcement Experience | 8 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 2 |

the employee shall have acquired the following combinations of education, either semester units or degrees, combined with the prescribed years of law enforcement.

For Advanced Certificate

| | | | | | |
|--|----|----|-----------|-----------------|----------------|
| Minimum education points, semester units/degrees | 30 | 45 | AA Degree | BA or BS Degree | Masters Degree |
| Years of Law Enforcement Experience | 12 | 9 | 9 | 6 | 4 |

the employee shall have acquired the following combinations of education, either semester units or degrees, combined with the prescribed years of law enforcement.

For Supervisory Certificate

employee must have completed:

1. Two years in rank as a supervisor (Sgt. or Det. II)
2. Sergeant or Detective Supervisor School.
3. A minimum of 60 semester units or possess an AA Degree.

For Management Certificate

employee must have completed:

1. Two years in rank as a lieutenant.
2. Lieutenant or Management School.
3. A minimum of 60 semester units or possess an AA Degree.

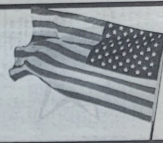
All applicants must submit a Certificate Application, POST Form 2-116. It takes approximately three months for certificates to be processed by POST.



Call Us on the League Message Line at:

or (213) 368-7288
(213) 368-7277

VETERAN'S CORNER



For Your Information is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. We encourage you to submit articles for publication. Deadline for submission is the 6th of the month for the following month's issue date.

American Legion News

Commander Martin Chalupa, 381

Meeting: 3rd Tuesday,
6:30pm - Panorama City
Post #817

13553 Reedley Avenue
Panorama City, CA 91402
(818) 781-2261

Adjutant Frank Ortiz
160 N. Glendora Avenue
Covina, CA 91724
Hm: (626) 331-4271



Wellness Recruit Class #2-2001

On February 12, 2001, **Marty Chalupa** welcomed the 2-2001 LAPD recruit class. There were nine with prior military service. They all joined Police Post #381. Congratulations and welcome to the new members: **Larry Dolley** (ARNG), **Robin Downey** (USMC), **David Goldstein** (USMC), **Legerald Green** (ARNG), **Charles Hays** (USN), **Jeremy Robles** (USN), **Jeffery-Scott 'Len' (USAF)**, **James Sterling** (USMC), and **Ramon Zepeda** (USMC).

Transfers

William (Bill) Mercier is retired from LAPD. He was a member of another American Legion post. He recently transferred to Police Post. Welcome, Bill, hope to see you at our steak fry in June.

Membership Requirements

Last month I mentioned that Police Post #381 members have to have prior military service and have been employed by the LAPD.

I failed to mention that any family member (with military service) of a member of Police Post is also eligible for membership. In other words, if your brother, sister, parent or child had military service, they are also eligible for membership in our post. In my case, my wife who served in the Army Nurse Corps is also a member of Police Post.

February Meeting

Our last meeting was held on February 20, 2001. This was the annual St. Valentine's get-together. The wives were recognized and given our thanks for

their support. A small box of candy was given to all the ladies as a token of our appreciation.

Are you 55 or Older?

Automotive insurance companies give a discount to persons 55 or over, after completion of an "approved drivers education course." Well, how do you find this "approved drivers education course"? AARP has an information referral number. No, you don't have to be a member. Phone 1-888-227-7669 and enter your zip code. You will be connected to a voice mail. They will call you back with the location of the classes in your area.

Rummage Sale - April 7 & 8

Panorama Post #817 has a yearly rummage sale. All of the proceeds go to Veterans Rehabilitation. Most of the funds go directly to the patients at the Sepulveda V.A. hospital.

It has been said many times that one person's discards are another's treasures. Sound familiar? Why not find out for yourself. Location: 13553 Reedley Street in Panorama City. Time: 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. on both days. Eats: hamburgers, \$1.50; hot dogs, \$1.00.

If you have any (tax deductible) discards, "treasures," bring them to the Post any time prior to the sale. There will be a bin set up in the parking lot.

Suing Time for Those Doing Time

Suit yourself. An inmate filed a \$5 million lawsuit against himself, claiming he had violated his own civil rights by getting himself arrested. He then asked the state to pay up since he was a "ward of the state."

Out of Hearing Range. A Mississippi prisoner sued for not receiving his scheduled parole hearing, even though he had escaped and was out when the hearing was held.

Bird on a Wire. A Connecticut prisoner sued the state for \$20,000 for pain and suffering because he cut his hand on barbed wire while trying to escape from jail.

Blew his Stack. A Florida prisoner sued to force prison officials to serve him three pancakes at breakfast instead of two.

It's Fallen and I Can't Pick it Up! An inmate in Nebraska sued after officials ordered him to pick up a hamburger bun he dropped. The inmate claimed this was a "work assignment" and that he was

prevented from working because of a medical condition.

Crime Shouldn't Spray! An Oakland, Calif., bank robber sued the bank, city and police officials after a tear gas device hidden in the loot injured him during his getaway. -Compiled by Elissa Kaupisch

Conventions - Mark Your Calendars

This year the state convention will be in Riverside, Calif. Dates: June 21-24, 2001. The national convention will be in San Antonio, Texas. Dates: August 24-30, 2001.

"The Pledge of Allegiance"

From the Red Skelton Hour, January 14, 1969. On nationwide television, Red Skelton told this story: Getting back to school, I remember a teacher I had. I only went through the 7th grade in school. I left home at 10 years old because I was hungry. I'd work in the summer and go to school in the winter. I remember this one teacher. To me, he was the greatest teacher, a real sage of my time. He had such wisdom. We were all reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, and he walked over. Mr. Lasswell was his name. He said, "I've been listening to you boys and girls recite the Pledge of Allegiance all semester and it seems as though it is becoming monotonous to you. If I may, may I recite it and try to explain to you the meaning of each word?"

I: Me; an individual; a committee of one.

PLEDGE: Dedicate all my worldly goods to give without self-pity.

ALLEGIANCE: My love and devotion.

TO THE FLAG: Our standard, Old Glory; a symbol of courage; and wherever she waves, there is respect, because your loyalty has given her a dignity that shouts "freedom is everybody's job."

UNITED: That means that we have all come together.

STATES: Individual communities that have united into forty-eight great states.

Forty-eight individual communities with pride and dignity and purpose. All divided with imaginary boundaries, yet united to a common purpose, and that's love for country.

AND TO THE REPUBLIC: Republic is a sovereign state in which power is invested in representatives chosen by the people to govern. And government is the people, and it's from the people to the leaders, not from the leaders to the people.

FOR WHICH IT STANDS ONE NATION: One nation, meaning so blessed by God.

INDIVISIBLE: Incapable of being divided.

WITH LIBERTY: Which is freedom; the right of power to lie one's own life, without fears, threats, or any sort of retaliation.

AND JUSTICE: The principle, or quality, of dealing fairly with others.

FOR ALL: For all, which means boys and girls, it's as much your country as it is mine.

And now boys and girls, please stand and PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO OUR FLAG."

Red Skelton finished his thoughts with, "Since I was a small boy, two states have been added to our country and two words have been added to the Pledge of Allegiance—UNDER GOD. Wouldn't it be a pity if someone said that is a prayer and that would be eliminated from schools, too?"

The Next Meeting of Police Post #381

Our meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month. The next meeting is April 17, 2001. Cocktails are at 6:00 p.m. and dinner at 7:00. There is a \$5 donation for dinner. Location: the Panorama Post at 13553 Reedley Street, Panorama City.

For information on the meeting, please call Commander George Aguilar at (661) 250-9366, or Adjutant Frank Ortiz, (626) 331-4271.

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DIVISIONAL REPORTER

Divisional Reporter is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. Divisional Reporters may submit one report per Division for publication. Deadline for submission is the 6th of the month for the following month's issue date.



by Tony Valadez
West Valley Division

OK, I know it's been a while since the last WVAL article. I have no excuse, just radio calls to handle, projects to complete, meetings to attend, and P-1s to train. Well, things have been relatively quiet in WVAL. Yeah, right.

Well, I hope we all were able to stay dry during February and March. C-30s and perimeters in the rain are invigorating, aren't they?

Commendations Anyone?

A few of WVAL's finest were honored by the L.A. City Council in February. Sgt. Allen, along with SLOs Webb and Gahry were commended for their dedication to duty and service to the community, related to shooting at Cleveland H.S. earlier that month. At a ceremony at City Hall, they were given City Council commendations. A big

WVAL congrats goes out to these fine officers. Who says what we do doesn't get noticed.

The Sports Beat

WVAL Athletics is going strong this spring, from our Baker-to-Vegas runners, and talented WVAL Softball team, to the philanthropic WVAL bicycle detail.

Our Baker-to-Vegas team is led again this year by Vice Sgt. L. Garcia. Joining Sgt. Garcia is Sgt. Gomez, from AM watch. The Baker-to-Vegas relay race will be held on April 7th and 8th. I'm sure you're packing for Vegas as you read this. All of us wish our runners good luck (at the race, as well as the blackjack and craps tables).

The WVAL softball team has started their quest to regain the Red Davis trophy, taken last season by Hollywood Division. Long-time manager, Sgt. Paul Sciarillo had to take time out to recover from an injury, and has entrusted the team to SLO Tony Valadez. This team will definitely challenge Hollywood Division for the championship. This year's team is led by the pitching of Tom Gahry, the "black-hole" glove of shortstop Cesar Corona, and the bats of Todd Booth, Myron Pedroche, Dan Schmidt, Craig Hewitt, Chris "the Big-D" Crosby, and the Nuttall brothers. If this team lives up to their potential,

they have a chance to make a phone call, to a certain Hollywood detective, about picking up a certain trophy right after the Red Davis Tournament.

On February 18, Sgt. Thomas Mason, West Valley Bicycle Detail OIC, Officer Royal Barber, West Valley Bicycle Detail, and Officer Tony Ljubetic, West Valley Vice, competed in the Orange County Sheriff's 999 "Ride to Remember," similar to our Memorial Run, except it involved bicycle competition, a USCF Criterion race, the cyclo-cross event and a fund-raising ride-a-thon. They participated in the three-man police team cyclo-cross challenge. The race involved riding their mountain bikes over steep hills, through muddy roads, over obstacles that required them to dismount and carry their bikes, riding through a 100 foot tunnel and a 100 foot, 150 pound dummy drag pull. The course was 4.5 miles long. They took third out of thirteen in the 1,000+ agency size, and 7th overall of the 28 teams. Sgt. Mason hopes to have a similar event here in Los Angeles sometime in the future.

Congratulations

We have had several of our own promoted recently. A big WVAL pat on the back goes out to SLOs Sabrina Kuhn, Jeff Tint, and Rich Andert, along with D-2 J. Sanchez have all been promoted

to sergeant. P-3s April Allbrook-Archer and Chris Crosby are our newest SLOs. (Hey, Chris, where's my coffee?) P-3s A. Lillenberg, T. Minter, and L. Vince are now detectives. Congratulations and good luck to all of you from all of us.

Comings and Goings

A big WVAL welcome goes out to Sgts. J. Jennerson (CTD), M. Taylor (IAG), and a welcome back to Sgt. R. Armelin. P-3s C. Corona (DEV), J. Lamonica (FTHL), M. Ro (MSD), J. Hewitt (RAMP), and D. Schmidt (RAMP). Our lone P-2 for DP#3 is L. Lowe (SE). Det.-1 J. Leduff is coming over from WLA. We have three new P-1s: J. Espiritu, G. Haro, and Y. Vargas.

A huge, tearful adios goes out to Sgts. J. Bender (DEV), M. Chong (TRDI), J. Sanchez (VNYS), R. Andert (WIL), J. Tint (WIL), and S. Kuhn (RAMP). D-1s L. Vince (PAC), A. Lillenberg and T. Minter (WLA), and finally P-2s J. Damen and M. Pedroza (VNYS). Good luck to all of you at your new divisions.

Well, that's all I have for now. Remember to call your friendly neighborhood Police Protective League office and DEMAND your 3/12s.

This is 10SLO75 and I'll be in my office for a while.



by Jack H. Schoneley
Air Support Division

Pilot Stuff

On February 23rd, Officer Bob Price completed his pilot training at ASD and received his command pilot wings. Bob's friends and family were in attendance for this big occasion. Bob is a pilot with the California National Guard at Los Alamitos Army Air Field, so many of his guests arrived at ASD in an H-60 Blackhawk. Since receiving his wings, Bob has also passed his Certified Flight Instructor check ride. Now Bob will be flying ASTRO on day watch fly-

ing Air 16 this month. Congratulations, Bob, all of us at ASD welcome your valuable flying experience.

Tactical Flight Officer Information

Recently all of our FTOs attended a training day updating them on all of the mission equipment in our new helicopters. This included updates on the moving map, the FLIR, and video downlinking. This training will allow all of our FTOs to support all of you on the ground. Our video downlink system really made its mark during the DNC and will certainly become a required piece of technology for major events. Downlinking allows field commanders to view live video from the helicopter to enable them to make real time decisions on tactical situations. You are all welcome to visit us at ASD to see our new ships and the technology inside.

Your Questions

Each month I try to include tips and information that will help all of you involved in tactical situations use the air-

crew to their fullest potential. I am very interested in addressing any questions or concerns that you have regarding your interactions with air support. If you have a question or an idea for a tip of the month topic, please contact me at 485-2600. You can leave the info with the tower and they will be sure and get it to me. Thanks in advance for your input.

ASD Tip of the Month

Every day officers arrive at a scene where a crime has just occurred and the suspects are GOA. Officers then begin to gather all of the necessary crime information for a crime broadcast and a PIR. Many times we arrive at the scene prior to the officers on the ground or soon thereafter. In order for us to do our job we need basic information as quickly as possible. The most common example of this is a vehicle description, direction last seen, and how long ago. That is all we need to get started. Many times officers take several minutes to gather all the info for a crime broadcast, most of which is not beneficial to us initially. Meanwhile, the suspects are getting fur-

ther away from the scene in an unknown direction. What we would like to see happen in that scenario is that the first thing you ask the witness is what kind of car, which way did they go, and how long ago. Immediately pass this info to the aircrew so they can try and locate the suspects for you. It isn't important for us to know the details of a suspect description when we are first overhead. Time is of the essence in these scenarios, so please try and get the vital info to us CODE 2 HIGH. Always watch your six.

ASD Web site Update

The Air Support Division Web site has been successfully updated. It now contains current, informative, and entertaining information. We invite all of you to visit the site. You can access the ASD Web page at www.lapdonline.org. From that home page go to "favorite pages" and scroll to Air Support Division. The ASD page will be continuously updated. Stay tuned for additional photos, video clips, and technical information. See you on the Web.

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Southern Tip

by Alley Cat
Harbor Division

To those of you who missed my article in the March edition, I'm sorry. Some months are too hectic and I can't keep up with all the happenings.

Harbor Division's basketball team has been putting on quite a display on the wood floors. Big coach, **Dan Ornelas**, and his players: **R. Reynoso**, **L. Morris**, **J. Mays**, **D. Cortez**, **M. Maldonado**, **M. Nua**, and **F. Bancalari** have gone undefeated in the double elimination tournament. Size really doesn't mean a lot in the scheme of things. This has to be the shortest, but stoutest team in LAPD history. Good luck, guys, and I will make sure your championship win gets published, when it happens.

Commendable caper in February has to go to SEU/Gang Officers **Matt Murray**, #31930, and **Brent Riederich**, #32300, working 5G63. The tough gang cops were on the lookout for hardened gang members terrorizing the Harbor City community when they observed a potentially young hoodlum walk out of his front yard unescorted. He tripped off down 225th Street towards Halldale Ave. at a slow and wobbly pace. They eyed this youngster for a few moments and realized that no one else was looking out for this tyke. When the youngster got close to Halldale Ave., they realized that police action was needed in a hurry. Officer Murray exited the police vehicle and conducted a short foot pursuit, which lasted 25 feet. He was able to subdue the individual without much resistance. Matt and Brent took the youngster back to the residence he had exited from and had a long discussion with the grandmother. She was elated and very thankful that these two fine young officers saved her one-year-old grandson from the potential of being harmed or run over in the street. It doesn't sound like much, does it? Yes, folks, it is. This is a common practice of LAPD officers every day in this big and at times ugly city. I personally commend them for their superior powers of observations

and commitment to the community they swore to protect. Boys, you did it, and my hat is off to you.

This should bring back some fond memories of many young and old officers on this job who started with the LAPD Explorers. We have two alone in Harbor Division—Sgt. **Mary Dallas** and P-3 **Tom Maloy**. In the late '70s, these two youths were committed to becoming LAPD officers. They even had a management partner, now Capt. **Bill Williams** (Pacific Div.). Tom, is it true that your picture is still on the pamphlet for new Explorers?

Officer **Matt Jones** is going to the SEU/Gang Unit. Matt, I heard that you called the hybrid Tactical Operations Driving Unit. Please tell me this is just a false rumor and the guys were playing a joke on you?

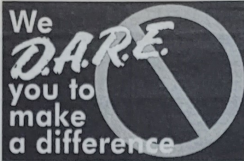
OK, now I have to update all the transfers and promotions in and around Harbor. **Kelvin Higa** was promoted to Det-I, CENT bound; **Michelle Santillan** made D-I and went to Pacific. Sergeants **J. Pallet** and **T. Smith** (who haven't been here forever) upgraded to Sgt.-IIs at Internal Affairs. **Theresa Alonzo** decided to pick up a three spot at Harbor Vice. Don't forget, Theresa, you have to train P-IIs when you get done. Coming into the Harbor family was Det. **Fathauer** as a new sergeant and **K. Young** as a new Det-I. That was just January. Now on to February: Plus one **Rosemary Piazza** has been boosted to the rank of sergeant at Rampart. **Sonny Romero** is moving to Newton Division as a shiny new Det-I. Incoming: **D. Choi** and **K. McCarthy** with new gold badges, D-I. Leaving the fold is **G. Smith**, D-I to RMD and **P. Dean**, new P-3, RMD. New P-2s: **R. Campos** to Central and **F. Pajaro** to WLA. More incoming: **D. Manriquez**, **R. Beckers**, **A. Coleman** and **H. Maltos**. Then there is the fresh blood: **C. Andrade** and **C. Martinez** from Training Division. We have a new/old sergeant, **Brent Smith**, making his way home to Harbor Division as the new Gang Sergeant. Brent, I don't know if we have all the eating spots that Pacific has, but I know you will find the better ones to dine at. Those that know Brent will understand what I mean. If you don't know him, just ask if you ever meet him about his food gourmet palate.

Remember to keep your powder dry and slide oiled during these rainy months. For the wheel guns carriers, watch your cylinders.

Area, who was on loan from West L.A. for a whopping one DP! Congratulations to all. Best wishes and good luck!

With all these promotions, many vacancies have been filled here at MSD and are bound to continue. Sgt. **Sue Leskere**, Sgt. **Emilio Garay**, Det. **Jayne Vermaat**, Officer **Kathy Haskins**, Officer **Paul Espinosa**, and Officer **Ed Spurling** (on loan from Foothill) have recently joined our illustrious group. Welcome to all!

Despite this great turnover of personnel, it's full steam ahead for Baker to Vegas! Joining forces are MSD, AG, ICS, and SID. Runners and support alike are looking forward to a weekend of competition and camaraderie. In preparation for Baker to Vegas, Sgt. **John McMahon** ran the Los Angeles Marathon on March 4th. Hopefully, he will have recovered by April 6th, in time to run his assigned leg. Good luck and see you at the finish line!



by Mark L. Horton
DARE Division

Departing

Having served seven years on the Department, 2-1/2 of which were in DARE Division, Officer **Debbie**



Almaguer, #30079, will be starting a new career in law enforcement with the university of the Pacific Police Department in Stockton, Calif. Thank

you, Debbie, for all of your efforts. Good luck in your future endeavors.

Best wishes and farewell to P-2 Officer **Vincent Taylor**, #30128, who is now at South Traffic Division.

Promotion

On the promotion wheel leaving for Southwest Division is P-2 Officer **Manny Sanchez**, #32705. Manny has received a P-3 position in Patrol there. Congratulations and stay safe.

Newborns

Congratulations to P-3 Officer **Mark Horton**, who is the proud father of a baby boy. Even though he arrived 26 days early, he was a welcome addition to the Horton family. Bryce Alan Horton was born Saturday, Jan. 27, 2001, at 3:45 a.m. at Santa Monica Hospital. He weighed in at 5 lbs., 8 oz. and was 16 and 7/8 inches long.

Upcoming Events

The Los Angeles Police Department's DARE Division will be hosting the 14th National DARE Officers Association conference. The conference will be July 30 through August 3, 2001.

Recruitment

If you are looking for an opportunity to be the catalyst for community-based policing, contact DARE and ask to speak to Sgt. **Dillard**, (213) 485-4856.

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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M.S.D. Notes

by CD
Management Services Division

Management Services Division has been experiencing a mass exodus as people move onward and upward within the Department.

Congratulations to: Sgt. **Mike Salinas**, Rampart AWC; Sgt. **Jeff Bert**, Foothill Area; Sgt. **David Koeh**, West L.A. Area; Senior MA **I Kathi Moreland**, Crime Analysis Section; P-III **Mark Ro**, West Valley Area, and, with possibly the shortest stint here at MSD, Det. **Jason LeDuff**, West Valley

DIVISIONAL REPORTER



by Det. Tom Wich
Robbery Homicide Division

Commendable Incident

The following was provided by Det. John Alviani, Rape Specials Section.

On Oct. 19, 2000, detectives assigned to RHD's RSS, Valley/West Regional Section (calm down old timers, RHD has grown quite a bit since you've retired) assumed the investigative responsibility of a kidnap/rape/robbery of a 21-year-old female victim from Pacific Area. The suspect had abducted the victim at gunpoint, forced her to remove currency from an ATM, then forced her to a hotel where he physically abused her. As if this was not enough, the suspect ordered the victim to phone her parents and have additional currency wired to a Western Union. The suspect then had the victim drive

him to the city of Hawthorne where he fled on foot.

RHD detectives, with the assistance of the victim, were able to locate several locations, including the hotel, where she had been forced to take the suspect. Based on their investigation, the detectives were able to identify this scum. A records check showed that the suspect was a parolee at large as well as a registered sex offender who had recently been released from prison after serving eight years for armed robbery.

The detectives were able to link this suspect with several other kidnap/robbery/rape cases throughout Pacific Area. The detectives soon discovered that this lowlife was also the prime suspect in the home invasion/double homicide of two stewardesses from Hawthorne, a car jacking in Hawthorne, as well as the home invasion robbery/homicide of a 54-year-old grandmother from the city of El Segundo.

Based on this information, RHD detectives coordinated a joint investigation utilizing detectives and officers from Pacific Area, Hawthorne PD, El Segundo PD, L.A. Sheriffs as well as LAPD's Fugitive & SIS sections, DOJ's Sexual Predator Apprehension Team and the Dept. of Corrections Special Services Unit. The stakeouts paid off and on November 14, 2000, the suspect was observed as he entered his ex-wife's

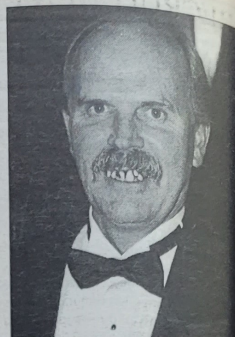
apartment in Southeast Area. With the assistance of patrol officers from Southeast Area the suspect was taken into custody. RHD detectives then served a search warrant at the suspect's residence in El Segundo where several items of evidence, including the handgun used by the suspect during his robberies and the murder in El Segundo, were recovered.

On December 21, 2000, RHD's Robbery Specials conducted a live lineup at LASO's Men's Central Jail. Thirteen victims were in attendance and several of them made positive identifications of the suspect. As a result, 18 felony counts were filed on this career criminal. If found guilty, this suspect will soon meet his maker down below.

As a side note, one of the kidnap/rape victims described the suspect as having placed a potato over the barrel of his handgun. Subsequent analysis (by LAPD's SID Trace Unit) of the handgun recovered during the search warrant revealed the presence of potato starch on the gun barrel. We at RHD wish to commend all of the detectives and officers from the various agencies for their outstanding bit of police work that resulted in the capture of this criminal predator. With all the negative publicity these days it sure is nice to see police still working with police to keep our cities safe.

RHD's 2nd Annual Family Reunion

All right, mark those calendars for Saturday, June 9, 2001. Our second annual family reunion/steak-fry is just a few months away. The event will be held at the Police Academy picnic grounds starting at 1200 hours. This will be a true family event including (I hope) a K-9 demonstration, a helicopter from Air Support Division, as well as representatives from Motors, Patrol and DARE. The pool will be open as well as other attractions for the kids. The tickets are \$20 a person and \$7 for kids under 15. There will be plenty of steak, chicken and liquid refreshments for the adults as well as hot dogs and hamburgers for the kids. Included in the price will be a gift as well as a raffle ticket. Last year's event drew 200 plus family and friends. In order to make sure we have



RHD's Steak Fry Mascot: "Ya need no teeth to eat our meat."

enough food to go around, you need not purchase your tickets by May 31st. Contact Otis Marlow (or whoever answers the phone) at (213) 485-2511 or 485-2129 or 485-0780. You can send a check to Robbery Homicide Division, 150 N. Los Angeles Street, L.A., CA 90012, room 321. Make the checks out to RHD Steak Fund, and specify steak or chicken.

End of the Year Re-Cap

During the past year, detectives from RHD assumed the investigation responsibility of numerous high profile complex cases including robbery, rape, murder, kidnappings, extortion, murder for hire, bank and armored car robberies, formal line-ups, officer involved shootings, threats against officers, dignitary protection as well as the ever-important audits. The detectives did so with pride, honor and professionalism. Robbery Specials handled 360 cases (64% clearance), Bank Robbery investigated 10 cases (56% clearance), Rape Specials investigated 208 cases (41% clearance) and Homicide Specials cleared 80% of their cases. What a year...

Until next time, be safe.

ROBBERY-HOMICIDE DIVISION

2nd Annual

FAMILY REUNION

Date: Saturday, June 9, 2001

Time: 1200 hours

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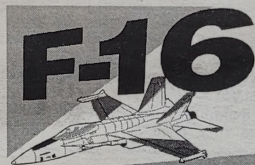
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by Julian Almaraz
Foothill Division

Patrol

In the month of February in Lake View Terrace during the evening hours, there was an increase of burglaries, where the suspects would use a large rock to smash the window of the business and remove valuable items. Suspects would flee undetected in unknown direction. During this month, we had numerous calls for services and burglary reports for the break-in.

Officers Dinse, #34920, and Grant, #32758, working morning watch, responded to C-30 at Foothill Blvd. And Terra Bella Blvd. Where there are ten businesses on the Lake View Terrace Ranch Market. Officers conducted their investigation and noticed that a large rock was used to smash out the window of one of the businesses. The rock the suspect used came from the nearby Hansen Dam Park area. After securing the business, the officers responding to the park area

noticed a male black walking through the area with some stolen items in his hands. The officers stopped and detained the suspect for 459 P.C. investigation. Officers conducted a pat-down search of the suspect and recovered several large rocks from him. These rocks resembled the same type of rock that was recovered at the scene of the burglary. The officers also noticed that the suspect had broken glass in the hood of his jacket and his pockets. Officers, with the suspect in custody, returned to above location where the burglary had occurred and recovered a 24-hour video from the owner. The officers examined the video and observed the suspect in the film breaking into the business and removing items.

Officers are commended for great investigation skills and knowledge of the area to complete the arrest report. This arrest cleared over ten burglaries in the area for the past month.

Foothill Sports

Well, our Foothill softball team is coming together with new players. Player coach Julian Almaraz will be running the team and looking for some players to come out.

Foothill basketball team is still in first place in their division.

Congratulations go out to Officer Fletcher and his wife for their new baby boy. Outstanding job to both parents and God bless.

RECRUITMENT



by Officer John Collyer
Recruitment Section

In the short month of February, we in Recruitment Section were extremely busy and attended a lot of local recruitment events. Some of the major college events that we attended included career fairs at the University of Southern California, San Diego State University, Azusa Pacific University, Pomona College, and California State University Dominguez Hills.

In Los Angeles, we attended Community Police Advisory Board meetings, various events and expositions at the Los Angeles Convention Center, and the LAPD/LAFD Recruitment Expo, which was hosted by our unit at the Crenshaw Christian Center in recognition of Black History Month. Officer **Kip Jackson** did an excellent job of coordinating this large event. Attending this event included Chief Parks, Mayor Riordan, and numerous officers from various divisions throughout the department. Additionally, the Los Angeles Fire Department was well represented and brought a lot of their engines and equipment for display. Despite the rainy inclement weather, we had a good turnout. City personnel administered the written test to 125 candidates.

Other major events that we attended throughout Southern California included Supercross at Edison Field in Anaheim, the Marine Corps Community Services Career Fair in San Diego, and the Ride to Remember at the El Toro Marine Base in Irvine.

There were two separate recruitment trips in February that we went on in our never-ending effort to increase and attract qualified candidates to our department. Officer **Alicia James** planned and organized a recruitment

trip to Bakersfield along with Officers **Joe Ferreira**, **Amira Smith**, and I. We attended a career fair, conducted numerous classroom presentations and several media interviews. We were met with a lot of interest and tested 40 candidates.

Officer **Phil Stine** planned and organized a recruitment trip to the Fresno area along with Officers **Kip Jackson**, **Rosa Torres** and **Hilary Rappe**. Their efforts attracted 68 candidates who took the written test.

Our previous recruitment trips are continuing to pay off as more and more out of town candidates complete the testing process. The February Academy class has 37 recruits. Sixteen percent of the class were recruited from outside of Southern California.

There have been several new developments in Recruitment that have now been implemented. Our Expediter Unit is now up and running. Officers **Joe Ferreira**, **Alynn Simmons** and **Steve Briggs** have been delegated with the task of assisting candidates as they go through the hiring process. The officers are additionally looking to assist in streamlining the hiring process.

We will now be assigning officers to the local test locations five days a week to answer questions from candidates and to assist and explain the hiring process to them. Officers from Recruitment Section will also advise them on department sponsored programs such as the oral interview seminar and the physical preparation classes that are available to better assist them in the hiring process.

A change in the minimum requirements will be implemented on March 15, 2001. The maximum age to test with our department will be raised from 34 years to 40 years of age. Additionally, the polygraph examination is now being implemented for all new hires during the background process.

If your division needs \$200 Police Officer Recruitment Incentive Cards or any recruitment material such as brochures or posters, please call us at (323) 957-4529 or drop by our office located at 6464 Sunset Blvd., #820, in Hollywood (mail stop 962).

VAN NUYS Happenings

by Linda Gotham
Van Nuys Division

Congratulations to Senior Clerk Typist **Louisa Brown** on her recent award of civilian of the year and also to Officer **Childs** and his wife on the birth of their new son, Dahvin Warren Cornelius Childs, weighing in at 7 lbs., 10 oz, 20 inches and arriving on 2/20/01 at 1524 hours. Mom, dad, and son are all doing fine.

Also arriving is Trinity Rose Largy at 7 lbs., 4 oz, 19 inches on 3/1/01 to proud grandma PSR **Trish Crupi** who works OSD.

I understand the admin unit is working on a 1.28 for an unknown officer for biting and picking the steering

wheels of our black and whites. Next week the burn ward will be taking dental impressions and fingernail scrapings of all patrol officers in order to find out the guilty party.

The new subpoena control, overtime and timekeeping office is completed and located across from the admin unit. We were moved up here for easier access for the officers, so if you have any questions concerning court or timekeeping, stop by and ask us. The only problem with our office is that only three people can fit in it at one time. So when we are all sitting at our desks and you have a question, one of us has to leave the room so you can come in. If you think I'm kidding, stop by and check it out.

If anyone has any good stories for the *Blue Line*, stop by and tell us so that we can get them in for the next issue. We are happy to announce that Officer **Dax Martin's** wife, Jennifer, is recovering and doing well. Take care and don't forget those officers who are no longer with us and learn from their mistakes. Stay safe.

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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DIVISIONAL REPORTER



by Cathy Hardy
Metropolitan Division

Greetings. Happy Spring! At press time, it was raining cats and dogs so like just in case Spring passed you by without a clue, it began its eternal reign on March 20th. Yessiree bob, that means old Peter Cottontail will be hopping along in search of bright green expanse of sod. In case you feel like time is just passing you by and every time you turn around you are in the midst of missing another great Hallmark marketing strategy, start shopping at Wal-mart. The folks at Wal-mart always know what time it is. The day after Valentine's Day, Wal-mart shelves are stocked full of Easter baskets, chocolate eggs, fake plastic grass in a rainbow array of colors right in between what's left of the St. Paddy's Day 1 foot by 2 foot cardboard cutout three-leaf clovers and the Scott's turf builder. Ooooh, and no doubt the annual B-V promos are keeping your personal day planner up to date. So, meanwhile, returning to the climate, here's the little bit I know.

Up/Out/ Movement

Congrats to former Metro Men Greg "Line" Wells and Alfonso Lopez. Line and Al are trading up from the two chevron/star insignias for the three chevron, upper biceps adornment. Say goodbye to utilities, horse-shoes, double-breasted suits, spurs and the .5 push. Best wishes gentlemen as you begin your supervisory roles in Southwest Division. Meanwhile, back in A platoon, farewell to Gus Ramirez. Gus is departing 114, yes it's really true, to polish up his Columbo act over in New-tron. Gee, Gus, and we were just getting to know you better! Best wishes for a successful Detective career. And last, but not least, my man, Jimmy Ray Hart is giving up the utilities and stand by for a minute to see what's up on the Mayor's detail. What is going to become of the Judo program? James, are you really confident that Robert (aka Leonard) can handle it alone? Maaaaaaaan! Seriously James, best of luck to you in your new endeavor. You

will be missed. Remember dear, you can always come home.

Maternity Ward

Congrats to Matt (Metro Cavalry) and Nadia (77th Div.) Bennyworth on the birth of their daughter, Kathleen Elizabeth. Kathleen, a beautiful derivative of Catherine, means pure of heart. Ahem, meanwhile, back at the ranch, Katie made her debut on Thursday, February 22, 0741 hours, weighing in at 7 lbs., 7 oz., and 20 inches long. Katie joins big brother Robbie and twin sister Riley and big sister Morgan. Hey, Matt, just for your edification, the score is now girls 3, boys 1.

Staying Co-nnected, 21st Century Style

Word to the wise, especially Metro Men and Women, parents and spouses—in this modern age of electronic gadgets, gizmos and such, it is very possible to stay in touch 24/7. I'm not like completely electronically correct myself, but at least I do own a pager (okay, I recently lost it) and I know how to change the notification modes for times when an unexpected beeping tone or musical intrusion would be inappropriate. This little important tidbit of info would be contained within another subject matter of this article, ahem, but being the person that I am, I don't like to lay folks out. Got it, good. While I'm here, don't forget to maintain your 1.38s appropriately. All right, enough said, I'm moving on.

Meanwhile, Back Inside Room 225

A very special congrats out to Officer Bobby Gallegos, Sr., that is, Bobby was crowned SWAT Officer of the Year at the annual SWAT dinner on February 26th. A honor very well deserved.

Injured Reserved List

Best wishes for a speedy and comfortable recovery out to Leonard "Robert" Christian (D), Rick Kosler (C), John Morris (114 Cavalry), Pat Kouri (Metro Cavalry), Paola Kreefit (50A), Bill Pack (114 Cavalry), Redolfo Romero (C, my best to Judy), Terry Ruppel (A), Dave Wade (K9), and Hurst Velasco (B).

A shout out there to Tom and Mrs. Dinnauer. I truly hope life is treating you well.

Happy Secretary's Day to our own Susie Q (Arji-Heger) and the MOS crew.

Until next time, R-10girl, clear. ✱

The Secret Is Out On OCVD

by Doris Andrews
Organized Crime and Vice Division



Organized Crime and Vice Division recognizes their "Secret Weapon"

Organized Crime and Vice Division is extremely proud to announce the nomination of Specialist Reserve Officer Edna Elaine Avery, Serial #R1676, as its 2000 Reserve Officer of the Year.

Officer Avery, better known as "Mom", retired from the City of Los Angeles at the rank of Principal Clerk of Police III, from Van Nuys Division, Records Section after 31 years of dedicated service.

In 1988, Officer Avery became a Specialist Reserve Officer and was assigned to Van Nuys Division. She was "stolen" several years later by Capt. Jim Docherty and reassigned to Administrative Vice Division and then transferred to Organized Crime Intelligence Division.

Since coming to OCVD, Elaine has made the administrative section a better place to work. Officer Avery's forte is using the computer to find criminals attempting to hide their identity from law enforcement. The phrase "Sié Em" has taken on an entirely new meaning thanks to Officer Avery. Her accomplishments have become legendary and the requests for assistance pour in from all over the County. Officer Avery was recently recognized for her assistance in capturing a Federal Fugitive who had been on "the lamb" for over twenty years.

During the year 2000, OCVD implemented the Autotrack System, which is used to access personal data. Due to the confidentiality of the system, a control policy was put in place. Elaine was given the responsibility of not only being the primary user of the system, but also assisted with implementing the control policies. This type of responsibility is indicative of the confidence and total reliability that OCVD has in Officer Avery's capabilities.

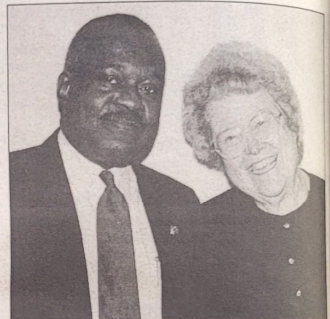
Although approaching eighty years of age, Elaine works a minimum of six hours a day, four days a week. This computes to a remarkable twelve hundred forty eight hours annually. It should be noted that Reserve Officers are only required to work two eight-hour shifts per month.

It is a pleasure to just to see Elaine arrive at work. Her bright smile and pleasant attitude is contagious to everyone around her. She is always willing to go the extra mile to assist someone. Her

initiative and dedication to duty is unmatched. Her inspiration and enthusiasm after forty-three years of service to the Los Angeles Police Department is light that brightens the path for everyone around her.

Law Enforcement Officer of the Year 2000

On February 26th, Detective II James "Jeff" Redman of the Russian Organized Crime Squad of Organized Crime and Vice Division was honored as the American Legion 24th District Law Enforcement Officer of the Year of 2000. This is the sixteenth year the American Legion 24th District, in conjunction with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Lodge #999 presented an award in recognition of an outstanding achievement by a member of the Los Angeles Police Department.



Detective III Enoch McClain and Specialist Reserve Officer Edna Avery.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, California Highway Patrol, or local Police Department within the 24th District. Detective Redman and his family were honored at a ceremony held at the Elk's Lodge at 609 South Western Ave., Los Angeles. Detective Redman received this prestigious award for his long successful effort as a member of a multi-agency Federal Task Force. The Task Force was coordinated by the U.S. Attorney's Office, Los Angeles Organized Crime Strike Force to obtain a Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization (RICO) indictment against a long time Los Angeles area organized crime figure. Nice work Jeff!

The Thirty Year Club!

May I be the first to recognize the dedication of our very own, "thirty year club!" Congratulations to Enoch McClain #16714, Steven J. Lopez #16814, Jim Miller #16820 and Bob Selvidge #16837. Our division is a better place because of your wealth of experience and knowledge.

Moving on

We bid fond farewell to Detective II Mary Dyer who is transferring to Devonshire Division. Congratulations are in order for Police Officer III Pat Austin who is promoting to Detective and is on the transfer to Hollenbeck Division. I wish you both the best of luck!

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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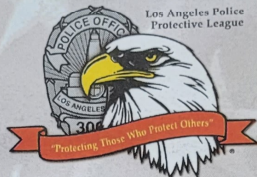
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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

LAPPL - UFLAC Proposals

by Cliff Ruff and Ed

The Los Angeles Police Protective League and the United Firefighters of Los Angeles City have negotiated two important pension issues to be placed on the ballot for voter approval. If the voters approve these two issues, they are expected to be available to firefighters and police officers January 1, 2002.

It is important to keep in mind that the below data is based on principles that have been tentatively agreed on by both the fire and police unions. There may be minute changes in the drafting of the ordinances, if approved by the voters.

Part I

On the April 10, 2001, ballot there will be a measure to create by ordinance a Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) for the purpose of retaining tenured officers.

DROP is a benefit that allows an officer to establish a fixed pension benefit while that officer continues to work as an active sworn employee with all other benefits. Upon entering DROP, the employee will have their fixed pension deposited in an account, administered by the Pension Department. The amounts deposited in that employee's DROP account and the earnings would be tax deferred until the employee retires and withdraws the funds. The employee would be permitted to work in the DROP program for up to five years. Upon retirement or the completion of five years in DROP, the employee would have the option of receiving these funds as a lump sum distribution, an annuity, or be able to roll the money into an IRS-qualified retirement plan.

An employee who participates in DROP will continue to receive all active medical and dental subsidies, pay raises, and can still promote. While in DROP, the retirement formula remains fixed, even though the officer's on-duty compensation may increase. The employee is still allowed to contribute to the deferred compensation plan. Since a DROP member is still an active employee, they cannot cash out unused vacation, overtime, or sick time that has been accrued until they actually retire.

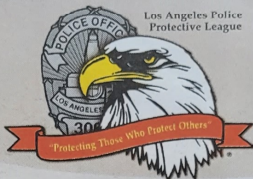
The DROP plan offers a qualified employee the opportunity to save several hundred thousand dollars on a tax deferred basis. It offers an outstanding alternative to retiring and going to work for someone else.

Part II

On the June 5, 2001, ballot there will be a measure to create by ordinance a new pension plan (Tier 5) that will offer greatly enhanced pension benefits for the purpose of recruiting and retaining police officers for the City of Los Angeles.

The Tier 5 Plan would be required for all new employees hired after its implementation date—scheduled for January 1, 2002. All other Los Angeles firefighters and police officers will be given a six month to a one-year window to opt into the new plan. Whether or not an employee should change plans is an individual decision based on each individual's own fiscal situation and opinions as to the value and benefits of their pension plan.

The basic Tier 5 proposal is based on a minimum of 20 years of service at age 50, with a maximum of 90% with 33 years of service.



INFORMATION

Proposed Pension Changes

F and Bob Baker

Years of Service at Age 50

| | | |
|----------|----------|-------------------------|
| 20 = 50% | 25 = 65% | 30 = 81%* (4% increase) |
| 21 = 53% | 26 = 68% | 31 = 84% |
| 22 = 56% | 27 = 71% | 32 = 87% |
| 23 = 59% | 28 = 74% | 33 = 90% |
| 24 = 62% | 29 = 77% | |

Tier 5 Plan will have the following provisions:

1. The salary base for the pension base will be the highest one-year average salary.
2. As long as the pension fund remains fully funded, the member contribution rate will be 8%. If the pension system develops an unfunded liability, the city and the unions will meet and confer with a 9% contribution rate possible, but only in the unfunded phase. The current actuarial projections allow for a surplus for 10 to 15 years in the future.
3. Refundability of contributions for any Tier 5 member that resigns or terminates.
4. Three percent COLA cap.
5. COLA bank that is used to deposit CPI increases over the 3% COLA cap and withdraw banked amounts to provide a 3% COLA when the CPI is below 3%.

Example: A COLA bank "banks" the COLA increase in any year when the COLA is over the cap of 3%. For those years where the COLA is under 3%, the "banked" COLA can be used to provide a COLA of up to 3%. For example, assume there is an initial CPI of 4%. A 3% COLA is applied to the pension and 1% is banked. The next year, the CPI is 2.2%. The Tier 5 pension would get .8% from the bank to add to the 2.2% CPI, making the COLA applied to the Tier 5 pension 3%. The amount left in the COLA bank would be .2%.

6. All other Tier 5 benefits will be the same as Tier 3 (Article 35) except that Tier 2 members who elect to transfer into Tier 5 will retain their Tier 2 survivor benefits, capped at 3%.
7. Discretionary funding for upward adjustments of COLA during high inflation periods.

If this Tier 5 Plan passes the ballot, the following will also occur:

- I. A dental subsidy will be provided for retirees.
- II. An Excess Benefit Plan will be provided for Police Command Officers and Fire Chief Officers impacted by IRS 415 maximum benefit limits.

The passage of the Tier 5 Plan will permit the merger of all pension funds, which will lower city contributions to the system for 10 to 15 years and help pay for the above described benefits.

DIVISIONAL REPORTER

West LA Journal

by Mary Dacey
West LA Division

Survivor III - 16 officers, 2 tribes... tribal council? Or? Send your applications to **Kelly Chrisman**, P-3 extraordinaire... Meanwhile, spring has sprung. April showers (or in our case, February and March!) bring May flowers. Also, Happy Easter! "Why seek ye the living among the dead? For He is risen, just as He said." Luke

Another officer has returned to the fold, the den, here at West L.A.—**Carlos Baca**. He has been an LAPD officer eight years as well as three years on the Reserve force. He said that law enforcement is a family business as almost everyone has been

involved in law, primarily as sheriffs. Baca said that the LAPD grabbed him first or that he, too, might have been with another Baca, a Sheriff. He has been at Foothill and narcotics (FED) and is a DRE. A naval reserve officer who speaks three languages—English, Spanish and French—he hopes to promote with the LAPD. First, however, he will be off in France getting married and then on to Jamaica where he will have his copy



Another WLA officer who returned to his den... his home... Carlos Baca.

of the *Blue Line* forwarded so he can read this!

F.Y.I., a caper is a small Mediterranean spice in the shape of a pea, as opposed to a good caper, which most cops say after a good arrest... i.e., that was a good caper. Also, "a fishing expedition is an adventure by Internal Affairs." (Anonymous.)

We are sad to be losing Sgt. **Mike Carodine** after these few years, but are happy about his promotion to Sgt. II. We are also happy for Sgt. **Michelle Blackstone** as she begins her transfer to a station closer to home, but I will miss picking up a vene non-fat latte for her at Starbucks! Some other great members of the department will be coming and going as well. Come along while I tell you about them. We extend the welcoming mat to new Sgts. **Koeh** and **Baggesgard** as well as new Detectives **L. Cameron**, **A. Lillenberg**, and **T. Minter**. Our own **Jason (Ledoux) Lefuff** has also been promoted to Det. I and will be heading for West Valley. McCarthy has been promoted to P-3 and will be going to Training Division, so long as we'll miss youuuu. You were always so cheerful when you were relieved after AM Watch on the desk. **Humphreys** will head to Hollenbeck while **Mazur** goes to Van Nuys. Congratulations. We, in turn, wel-



Sgt. Greg Hancock & Karen of records looking up qualifying times for the upcoming Baker to Vegas Bonanza. Will WLA win? Was there ever any doubt?!

come **Chacon** from The Club and **Pajaro** from Harbor, Fobbs from Hollenbeck and **B. Carrillo** from SW. Incoming rookies include **S. Alfonso**, **Babel**, **T. Collins** and **J. Yoo**. May you have long and illustrious careers with the LAPD.

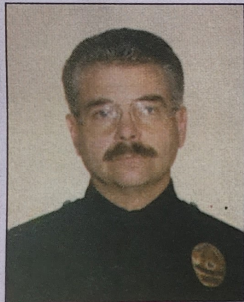
It's time to get out my Goretex rain boots and see if they really work while I walk down the block to the mailbox so that your April edition of the Journal will be on time. Same bat time, same bat channel. ✕

1 Northeast corner

by Susan Carrasco
Northeast Division

Congratulations

Sgt. **Greg Winslow** was awarded Sergeant of the Year of Northeast Division. His dedication and tenacity for the job is well known to all of us at Northeast. Sgt. Winslow assists us each day by adding to the knowledge of the officers around him. He came onto the job in 1972. Today he is counted on in numerous ways, such as completing special projects for



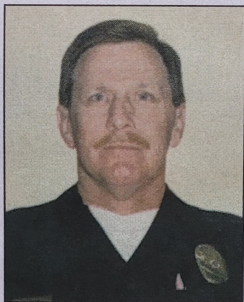
Sergeant Winslow, cheerful as always. Sergeant of the Year.

the captain, sitting in as Watch Commander, and kicking back all of our citations. Congratulations Sgt. Winslow, it is well deserved.

Officer of the Year went to P.O. III **Richard Davis**. Rich comes in each

night ready to give his all to the job. He goes home each morning knowing that he gave more than his share. Rich has years with the department, many spent here at Northeast. The supervisors all know when Rich is working their jobs are easier. Rich is a great officer for all you young officers to mentor yourself after.

Civilian Employee of the Year went out to **Cristina Sult**. Cristina works hard in the Northeast Crime Analysis Detail. She spends much of her time working with all the statistics in the area. She assists all of us with our crime trends. Cristina's dedication has assisted us in making our jobs easier



Officer of the Year, Rich Davis.

and helped us in the reduction of crime. Congratulations to all three of you!

Sports Update

April 6, 7 & 8 is the Baker to Vegas weekend. All our runners are out there running hard and enjoying a good time. Let's wish them a safe journey through the desert and safe return.

Softball is starting. Even if you are not a player, be a supporter. **Bob Reynolds** is the Northeast softball coach. If you feel like you can do the team some good, call Bob. The team

needs to have the support from all of us. Come on out to a game and watch our team play ball.

Fallen Officers

Do you know anyone killed in the line of duty? Do you know someone with a catastrophic illness? Chances are you do. Do you know who is paying for their kids to go to school? Who helps with the doctor bills or the mortgage? Your LAPD Memorial Foundation is a helping hand in all of it. The next time you are in roll call, look around you. Someone in the room has a family that may someday need your help. It just may be your family.

The Celebrity Golf Tournament contacts many corporate sponsors that donate their time and money. The many celebrities that attend the tournament are donating their valuable time to assist the members of our Department. These people do not know you or your family but they

for the officers in need.

The golf tournament is not just to earn the money, but to bring us together. It is cops helping cops. I am not asking for you not to sell a few tickets. I am asking you to come to the Celebrity Golf Tournament. The tournament does not go as well without a good attendance. It's a fun day if you are single, married with children or without children. In other words, it is a great time for everyone.

Please sell your tickets! Please come to the tournament! I am begging! I hope my begging doesn't benefit you. Wouldn't it be awful if you or your partner needed assistance and there wasn't a foundation to help? I hope to see all of you out there.

Commendable Caper

On Jan. 19, 2001, at 2215 hours, Officer **Olivera** and **Rey** were on patrol in the "Figuerroa Corridor," an area that has experienced a high percentage of auto theft and burglary. The officers focused their attention in a specific area identified as having the most auto thefts. While traveling southbound on Aldama Street from Avenue 61, the officers observed a male driving a vehicle at a high rate of speed. The officers conducted a computer check of the vehicle license plate, which returned as a stolen vehicle. The officers advised Communications Division and requested a back-up unit and an Air Unit. The suspect quickly turned eastbound on Ash Street from Aldama. He entered the underground parking structure at a location in the 5600 block of Ash Street. The officers conducted a felony stop and ordered the suspect out of the vehicle. He was taken into custody without incident. Upon being taken into custody, the suspect stated that a friend let him borrow the car and that he did not know it was



Civilian Employee of the Year, Cristina Sult.

understand the need for the cause. Do you? Asking to sell some tickets is not much compared to the expenses the Foundation spends each year

continued on page 30



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HOLLYWOOD HAPPENINGS

by Floyd Toledo
Hollywood Division

In-Outs-N-Ups

Promoting and boating in during DP #2 to our island are Lt.-I **Lance Smith** from IAG, Sgt.-I **John Martinez** from TD, D-I **John Padilla** from N/E, D-I **George Molina** from Van Nuys, and P-3 **Pablo Vitar** from N/E. Also arriving is Lt. **Lydia Diaz** from Central, P-2 **Brian Bixler** from 77th, and D-I **Freddy Arroyo** from HOLBK.

Promoting and being washed away from the island, due to forty days and nights of rains, were Lt.-II **Joan McNamara** to OCB, Lt.-II **Thomas Ward** to OWB, Sgt.-II **Daniel Gonzalez** to MSD, and D-I/Sgt.-I **Kerri Brown** to Foothill (soon to be seen golfing at the "Cascades" course). Also gone are P-3 **Dave Neville** and P-2 **Margarita Sanders** to WTD.

Transferring in during DP #3 is newly promoted Sgt. **E. Mendoza** from DEV and Sgt. **L. Tiano** from VNYS. Over in Detectives are three new Detectives from N/E, **R. Baca**, **E. Estupinian**, and **D. Gourman**. Just in is P-2 **F. McBride** from NHWD, and from the Academy, P-Is **J. Rodriguez**, **S. Rumenapp**, and **R. Santos**.

Promoted and leaving are Det.-I **Al Rasch** (way to go homie), Sgt. **S. Moten** gone to VNYS, Det.-II **Freddy Arroyo** to S/W, P-2 **J. Lopez** is headed for VNYS.

Detective of the Fourth Quarter

Detective II **Steven Ramires** came to Hollywood in November, 1999, and is currently assigned to the Crimes Against Persons Section. His task was to reduce the overdue cases plaguing the unit. He attacked this problem with professionalism and dogged determination. His leadership ability to motivate and inspire younger detectives resulted in the group surpassing their investigative goals. He led his team with distinction as he carried a heavy caseload

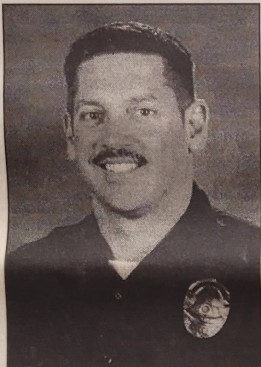
while performing administrative duties. The citizens of Hollywood are fortunate to have such a dedicated investigator and outstanding supervisor.

Detective of the Year 2000

Detective II **Michael S. Binford** is a 25-year veteran who is assigned to the Auto Theft Unit. He has become an expert in investigating auto related crimes from misdemeanor vandalism to complex vehicle identification switches. He has been commended by the District Attorney's office on several occasions for his professionalism and in depth investigations. He has completed several multiple clearances, due to his knowledge of his area of assignment, tremendous work ethic, and expertise in interviewing criminal suspects. The Detective and supervisory personnel from Hollywood Operations Support Division take great pride in recognizing Detective II **Michael Binford** as the "Detective of the Year 2000."

Patrolman of the Fourth Quarter

P.O. III **Chuck Moore** has been a Hollywood Patrol Officer for the past five years. He is a positive peer leader and his supervisors acknowledge him



Chuck Moore, Police Officer of the Quarter.

as a problem-solving patrolman. A former USC linebacker, and a starter on the Hollywood championship softball team, he displays an imposing presence with a quiet, pleasant demeanor.

His assignments include foot beat officer and long-term S.L.O. for 6A45. His fellow officers and the citizens of Hollywood respect, appreciate, and honor Patrol Officer **Moore** for his outstanding dedication to duty.

Employee of the Third Quarter 2000

P.O. II **Gregory Stearns** is a six-year veteran currently assigned to Detectives. He is one anomaly to the preconception that Patrol and Detectives clash. He and his partner

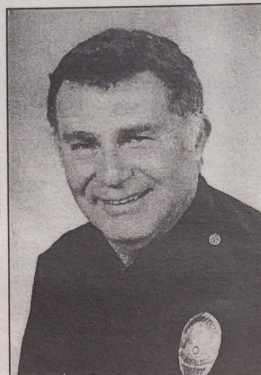


Gregory Stearns, Police Officer of the Quarter.

created a new specialized unit that would be in charge of tracing and monitoring registered sex offenders. This unit is known as R.E.A.C.T., Registration Enforcement and Compliance Team. When given a case, he uses a combination of old fashioned legwork along with modern day computer knowledge. Officer **Stearns** has more than earned this recognition by his outstanding accomplishments.

Reserve Officer of the Quarter 2000

Reserve Officer **Garth Pillsbury** has been assigned to Hollywood since February, 1984. His skills as an accomplished photographer have been docu-



Garth Pillsbury, Reserve Officer of the Quarter.

mented in the numerous commendations he has earned from the department over his many years of service. The city of Los Angeles and LAPD are proud to have Reserve Officer **Garth Pillsbury** as a member of their Reserve Program. His continuous efforts will serve to enhance the respect already displayed towards the Hollywood Reserve Officers.

Only in Hollywood - Sports Note

For those Hollywood runners training for the upcoming Baker to Vegas Relay, don't forget team captain **Jim Mater**'s advice during these wet days—"Run between the rain drops."

Northeast Corner

continued from page 30

and that he did not know it was stolen. (The suspect had not been told that he was being arrested for Grand Theft Auto.) The suspect was transported to Northeast station for a follow-up investigation. The officers' investigation revealed that the suspect was a parolee and had a "no bail" warrant. Officers **Olivera** and **Rey** were commended for their attention to duty and for their outstanding tactics, which resulted in the arrest of this parolee.

Coming/Going and Promotions

Northeast had to say goodbye to Lt. **Kirk**. She has promoted to Lt. II en route to CID. Lt. **Kirk** comes and goes to Northeast so much yet always with a different rank. So, we will most likely see her back as a Captain. Sgt. **Hanczuk** has been promoted to Sgt. II at IAG and Sgt. **Matsumoto** has been promoted as Sgt. II, NE Vice. Officer **Krempa** is now to be referred as Sgt. **Krempa**, Southwest. Promoted to Detective are Officer **Baca**, Officer

Estupinian and Officer **Gourman**. They are all going to Hollywood. Congratulations! I am sure you know that you will all be truly missed at Northeast.

Sgt. **Ernst Cabriales** is willingly abandoning us. Foothill is in luck getting him as a sergeant. Cabby, that was not very nice of you. Officer **Asuncion** is off to Van Nuys. Have fun up in the valley.

Coming to Northeast is Lt. **Wade** from Van Nuys, Sgt. **Gamble**/Transit Division and Det. **Thompson**/Devonshire, Det. **Miles**/Southwest, and Det. **Kalyn**/Wilshire. P.O. III **Gomez** is transferring over from Southeast. Officers **Lopez** and **Tam** from Wilshire, Officer **Ruelas** from Van Nuys and Officer **Belderian** from TBD are all coming over. Can you believe we are getting five Probationers! Officers **Carrillo**, **Martinez**, **Scoggins**, **Steffensen**, and **Witt** are the lucky ones that will be trained by the Northeast P-3s that are just waiting to share their wealth of job knowledge. Do we have that many P-Is at Northeast now?

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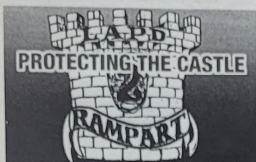
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DIVISIONAL REPORTER



by Jim Tomeo
Rampart Division

Well, even though we are all rain-soaked and soggy this month, remember: things could be worse — it could be 20 degrees below and snowing, right? This month has been a trying but productive one again here in Rampart. I have a couple of "commendable capers"; some sports news; news of promotions and transfers; and, of course, we are getting ready for Baker to Vegas — Vegas, baby! (Sorry, I got a little carried away there.)

Promotions

Starting off this month we have P-2 (secondary target) **Crump** is now a Sgt at 77th Division. We are also losing our Twin Towers, P-2s **Schmidt & Hewitt**, who are newly promoted P-3s to West Valley. Come back and see of soon guys — your presence will be missed. P-3 **McCarthy, K.** has been promoted to D-1 and is at Harbor Division now. P-3 **Hay, R.** squeaked in there also and got promoted to D-1, and is at Pacific Division. Both were outstanding police officers, will make outstanding Detectives, and will be missed. **Sgt. Jones, T.** is now a D-1 filling cases over in Wilshire Division — good luck and best wishes. The next Officer is not getting promoted but demoted — in a good way. He will be the "Eye in the Sky" for us now. P-3 **Fraser, M.** (a.k.a. Big Bird) has flown the coop and is now in a real Big Bird as a P-2+10, or something like that, at Air Support Division. Remember to say hello to **Dickerson** and **Lt. Green** when you get up there, from all of us down here on the ground. We look forward to hearing you on the other end of the radio. Good luck and stay safe up there. Congrats to my "Paisan" P-2 **Perello, M.** for his promotion to P-3 here at Rampart — good job. Now you got a little extra cash to get some new paint for your truck, to match those flashy rims.

IN's and OUT's

On the IN side we have newly promoted **Sgt. Piazza, R.** (I wonder if there is any relation?) Again this month we have a few D-1s on the IN side: Newly promoted D-1s **Pelps, M.**

from Hollywood; **Casas, S.** from Juvenile Division; **Davis, G.** from TD; and **Ruiz, G.** from Van Nuys — Congrats and welcome to 3rd and Union. P-2 **Zaparka, J.** has gone to ride the rails at TRD — good luck and watch out for the third rail, it packs one hell of a punch. Then, we sent our newly promoted P-2s off to their new assignments: P-2 **Ortega, R.** went to Van Nuys and P-2 **Castaneda, J.** went to Wilshire. On that same note, we now have five newly promoted P-2s: P-2 **Mariscal, M.** from 77th; P-2 **Zaragoza, C.** from Southwest; P-2 **Trejo, J.** from TRD; P-2 **Rogers, W.** from TRD; P-2 **Butcher, A.** from Van Nuys — Welcome to Rampart. Now for our new probationers: P-1s **Arroyo, A.** and **Galvan, R.**, you have one last challenge — Probation at Rampart. We also are getting **Sgt. II Salinas, M.** from MSD — we look forward to working with you, and welcome. This one is not really an IN but a welcome back to P-3 **Contreras, L.** who has returned from his absence — welcome back from all of us at morning watch.

Sporting News

I know I talk a lot about the sporting news here in Rampart, but as we all know sports are big here. Before I get started, I would like to send our wishes out to P-2 **Pacheco, V.** who broke



his leg last month — get well soon! We miss you at the station and out there on the court. The basketball tournament started this month, with two of our three teams at the top of the charts. Both the "A" and "D" teams have not fared well and are out of the tournament. The "C" team is doing well with two hard-fought wins so far, over Foothill and Dare Divisions. I will have a summary for next month's issue.

Commendable Capers #1

Officers **Serrano #26603, Solis #32315, Petteque #31373, Contreras #31645, Jones T. #32663, Escobar #34768, Gomez #33237, Lee #32673 and Sgt Brown #27969.**

Officers **Serrano** and **Solis** were conducting a walkthrough of an apartment building, which had been identified as a problem location due to the high number of radio calls generated and incidents that have occurred at the location. An individual who stated that he had been a victim of an ADW several days earlier flagged the officers down. He was in possession of a crime report from several days earlier of an ADW. Shots fired from approximately 1 block away from the location.

The Victim stated that he had just observed the suspect named in the crime report walk into the location that they were inside of now. Officers were approached by a second person who advised them that they had just seen the suspect that they were looking for, with two guns in his possession, go into an apartment on the 4th floor. The suspect did not live at the location but was visiting a friend. The second individual told officers that the suspect was walking around with the guns in his hands and threatening to go and shoot a rival gang member. Officers requested for additional units and Officers **Petteque, Contreras, Jones, Escobar, Gomez, Lee** and **Sgt Brown** responded.

The officers were formulating their

detained the suspect and were able to contact the R/O of the vehicle. The R/O stated that he had parked and secured the vehicle earlier that night. The R/O did not know the suspect and stated that he never gave the suspect permission to be inside of his vehicle. The suspect was also found to be in possession of property ID'd by the R/O as his property that he had left inside of the vehicle. The suspect was arrested and during the interview process officers were able to obtain a confession. Outstanding attention to detail and knowledge of the crime trends for your area, guys.

Commendable Capers #3

Officers **Friesenhahn #33554, Verner #33441, Izzo #32661, Gomez #R2949, and Ortiz #R2826.**

Officers **Friesenhahn** and **Verner** responded to a radio call of a Robbery that had just occurred. Officers met with the victims who had just been robbed at knifepoint, while they were waiting for a bus. The robber had cut one of the victims with the knife during the robbery. Officers conducted a crime broadcast. Officers **Izzo, Gomez** and **Ortiz** detained a suspect in the area that matched the suspect description in the broadcast. The victim was transported and made a positive ID of the suspect detained as the person who had just robbed and cut him. The suspect was arrested. Again outstanding teamwork and attention to detail on the arrest of another robber.

There are things that happen from time to time that leave you saying things like, "What were they thinking, or, Only in Rampart, and One in a million. That's what this next headline will cover. I write about them as I come across them, okay? Enjoy."

Darwin Award

Officers **Tomeo #33087, and Camarillo #31713**

Officers were set up in an observation post for a burglar that had been burglarizing the same business over and over. Officers were set inside of an empty apartment on the third floor of a neighboring apartment building. The observations had been going on for approximately 1 week and this was the last day of the operation. About half way through the night, officers heard foot steps come up the rear steps of the building and stop outside of the apartment they were using as an OP. The suspect outside of the door knocked several times, then went to the rear fire escape, leaned over and knocked on the bathroom window. The suspect returned to the door and knocked even harder, then went back to the fire escape but this time, he forced the locked window open and called inside. When there was no answer, he climbed over the rail of the fire escape, and in through the open bathroom window. Remember this apartment is on the 3rd floor and the window is approximately 1ft wide. The suspect got into the bathroom and started to walk into the living area, were officers illuminated him and took him into custody without incident. For anyone who has not worked in Rampart Division, let me tell you there are probably more large apartment buildings here than the rest of the City combined, and this guy decided to break into this one.

Well, I will get back with everybody next month with more Divisional info. If there are any comments, questions or suggestions, or if you just want to tell me what you like or don't like about the article, feel free to e-mail me at jimtomeo@yahoo.com.



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All American Division 77th

by Maria C. Marquez
77th Street Division

Did You Get Your Greenie Today ...

Seems to be the major concern of patrol officers and supervisors at the time of this writing. Officers regarding this are currently discussing so many issues, and it is appreciated that the League has taken action in an attempt to address this issue. But the questions still remain: "What is the magic number that is going to keep the peace between patrol and management?" With the "no quota" issue a major factor, how does the rest of daily patrol activities come into play before patrol officers are looked at as deficient in traffic related issues. It was proven a long time ago that you cannot steal from Paul to pay Peter, and sometimes when you are dealing with a Paul (arrestee, extensive criminal investigation or numerous calls for service) you are not going to have time for Peter, the traffic violator.

When time permits, like it does on our Morning Watch, Sgt. Jo Ann Stout took this current situation and turned it into something positive. Numerous morning watch officers were commended via 15.7 regarding their outstanding traffic enforcement efforts. Nice job, Sgt. Stout and commended officers!

Just a Sergeant Working a Patrol

Sgt. Richard Baeza, #24313, (Mid PM) was on Crenshaw Blvd. When he heard the crime broadcast of 211 just occurred at 43rd and Crenshaw. The suspect's vehicle was described as a green Dodge Neon with no plates, with four male blacks. Once Sgt. Baeza observed the vehicle the notification was made to Communications that he was following the vehicle. While units were responding to assist, the vehicle pulled into a driveway and stopped. Three of the suspects fled on foot and one remained in the vehicle. The perimeter was set and the suspect who remained in the vehicle was

taken into custody. K-9 responded and located two of the fleeing suspects. A field show-up of the three suspects in custody was completed and the victim identified all three. In addition, the victim's property was recovered in the suspect's vehicle. You go, Sarge!

North Hollywood Stolen Not Welcome in 77th

On 2/16/01, Officer Michael Barrios, #31209, and David Martinez, #32878 (AMs), observed a Toyota Camry driving in a FASTRAC area of stolen (Camry) vehicles identified by 77th Street Auto Detectives. As the officers attempted to run the plate, three suspects exited the vehicle and fled. Officers established a perimeter and took two suspects into custody within minutes of setting up the perimeter. LAPD K-9 quickly responded and the third suspect was taken into custody. Officers' investigation revealed that this vehicle was an unreported stolen from North Hollywood.

Hours later ... Officer Steve Zaby, #25530, and Jerome Michalczak, #35651, observed a Toyota Camry in the same area fail to stop for a posted stop sign. After running the vehicle for want and warrants, the return advised them that they were following another North Hollywood stolen. This investigation involved a vehicle pursuit, a traffic accident (suspects' vehicle vs. a pole and a tree) and a perimeter for fleeing



P/I Debbie Luker AKA "Lukalizer" is going to be off for awhile nursing two broken ankles. Get well soon, Deb!

suspects. Two suspects were arrested with the assistance of K-9. Most impor-

tantly, a loaded 9mm Tech pistol was recovered near the location of the suspect's vehicle.

Athlete of the Month

Our athlete of the month has been selected. He is the "chosen one!"—Lt. II Douglas Young, #14743.

With over 32 years on the Department, he still chooses to remain a dedicated member of the 77th Street Bench Press Team. At times his schedule does not allow him to participate, but when he does, he is always a gold medal contender. With his time on the job, one would wonder why he is still here. If you ever had the privilege to work for Lt. Young, you would know.

He jogs, lifts weights, and remains an inspiration to this young Division. Thank you, Sir!

Divisional In-house Promotions

Gary Higginbotham, #16801 – DIII, Tom Marchetti, #26234 – DII, Rocky Sato, #25117 – DII, Rebecca Gordon, #30098 – P3+1. Congratulations to all of you!

The P.M. Watch PSR in the Know

PSR Jeanetta Adams, A8081, has been with the Department since 1973. Her current assignments is 77th Street. We regard her as the Administrative PSR. Jeanetta can be counted on to perform just about any duty when it involves our A.C.C., and is an expert in



Sean James and Shannon Marie visiting Granny at 77th Street.

handling issues involving the probationary officers of the Division. She is always there for her officers and is always willing to listen to us whether it be Departmental issues or personal issues. Having one adult daughter (Danita), Jeanetta is certainly an expert when it comes to life issues. She is also the proud grandmother to Sean James who is seven years old and Shanon Marie who is two years old. With 27 years on the Department, 77th will certainly be privileged if she stays on to complete her 30 years. Ironically enough, Ms. Jeanetta began her career with city here at 77th Street as a clerk typist and is looking to complete her stay with the Department while assigned to 77th Street.

Happy Easter to all of you from your brothers and sisters at 77th Street. Let us not forget the meaning of this holiday, and do not forget to thank "Him" for all of your blessings.

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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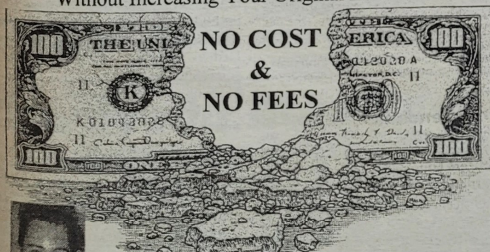
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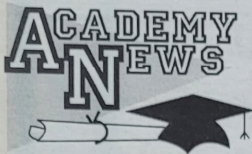
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DIVISIONAL REPORTER



by Tai Kingi
Training Division

Welcoming Captain Sergio Diaz

Training Division would like to offer a belated warm welcome to Capt. **Sergio Diaz**. Capt. Sergio Diaz transferred in from IAD and Training Division staff anxiously awaited his arrival. I had an opportunity to talk with him and he has quite an agenda for his crew and is certainly aware that Training Division is staffed with the best of the best. It's a pleasure to work for Capt. Diaz, and on behalf of Training Division, we would like to welcome him.

Baker to Vegas, Here We Go Again!!

It's that time of year again. Baker to Vegas is right around the corner and every year it seems to creep up on us. At this time every year I think we tend to ask ourselves why we are putting our bodies through this physical abuse. Most of us in Training Division have a strict regimented workout schedule and Baker to Vegas is an opportunity to show off our individual running abilities and divisional esprit de corps. Once again we are ready to set some records and will be running with Air Support Division. Officer **Jeff Jamming Freyermuth** is team captain and the following officers will be setting the pace throughout the night: Sgt. **Segura** will be the lead man with leg #1 and somewhere behind him throughout the night will be Officers **Big Bad Blake Budai**, **Run Forest Run Roger Forest**, **Madman Mel Gamble**, **Titus the Gimp Tyler**, **Rowdy Ricky Santos**, **Admin Adolfo Batres**, **Crushing Tim Colomey**, **Growing Greg Davis**, **Jim Marathonman Marshall**, and **Mike Acosta**. On the support team thanks to the following:

Sgt. **Il Rich Laguna**, Officers **Anita Moreno**, **Marc Hemsworth**, **MSA Colleen Briggs**, and **Rene Montoya**. Once again, Air Support will have the following officers join the fun: Officers **Gil Campos**, **Al Canche**, **Jaime Marin**, **Steve Cornell**, **Jack Brandt** (team captain), **Doug Abney**, **Lt. Bob Green** and **Jim Weigh**.

Athletic News

Officer **Roger Forest** begged me not to publish his marathon accomplishment, but I refused to grant his request. Officer Forest is one of Training Division's top cop runners and should be recognized for his athletic ability. Roger is an expert marathon runner since he has run the Los Angeles Marathon eleven times. Roger will be definitely setting the pace and breaking all the records for



(L-R): Tai Kingi, Annette Olivas, Robert Nobile, Mel Gamble, Celia Komathy, Chief Daryl Gates, Sgt. Steve Flores, Grace Kelly, Jim Buck.

Baker to Vegas. Roger said he was on pace for a three-hour, ten-minute finishing time but hit the wall at around the 20th mile. Amazing, how it took him 20 miles to start to sweat. Congratulations to Roger for a finishing time of 3:30 minutes.

Officer **Jeff Freyermuth** received a medal of achievement in the Chino 5K/10K mile run in the 50-55 age group. Jeff wanted to break the 20 minute mark, but was a few seconds short completing the run in 20:23. Jeff is a great athlete and another record breaking Training Division officer.

Promotions

I want to take this special opportunity to bid a farewell to four officers from Training Division. Recruit coordination will lose one of the best OICs—**Steve**

be very difficult to find someone with his unique qualities to fill his spot. **Lt. Flores**, you really are the best! Another well deserved promotion is also one of Recruit Coordination's hardcore class



(L-R): Sgt. Mel Gamble, Lt. Steve Flores, Detective Sandra Smith, Detective Greg Davis.

coordinators—Officer **Mel Gamble**, who will be joining the ranks of Sergeant at Northeast Division. Sgt. Gamble's prior assignments consisted of Central, Wilshire, Southeast, and 77 and was responsible for training many probationers in the field. While at Training Division he worked PT/SD before being recruited to Recruit Coordination Unit and was responsible for the 8A99, 2/2000, and the 12/2000 class. Sgt. Gamble was also prior military and was instrumental in recruit graduation color guard. Sgt. Gamble has earned the respect to wear the sergeant stripes and will surely be missed.

Human Relations will also lose one of their best officers—Officer **Sandra Smith**, now a detective, will be transferring to Pacific Division. Det. Smith said she had a wonderful time at Training Division and will miss her co-workers. Smith said she is excited about her new assignment and adventure. Good luck!!

Physical Training is also losing one of its best to Rampart Detectives—Det. **Greg Davis** has been working Training Division for three years and worked Academics and Physical Training Unit. Officer Davis was voted outstanding instructor for the 4-2000 class just to mention one of his many accomplishments. Good luck and keep in touch.

Flores, now Lieutenant Flores to Metro Rail Division. Lt. Flores has served this Department for 20 years and has been a great asset to Recruit Coordination Unit. He always seemed to put his heart into his work and based many of his decisions and every day operations for the overall benefit of the unit and Training Division. He unselfishly worked many long hours and has the superior ability to share his knowledge and expertise with those of lower ranks hoping to climb up the ladder. He will surely be missed and it will



by Mary E. Lopez
Detective Headquarters Division

Baker to Vegas time is here again. Good luck to all you runners out there. Next year watch out for DHD. We have 20 runners in tip-top shape. Ooh, wait a minute, I was just told that the run is 120 miles and not 20 miles. Hmm, our two fastest runners are backing out. **Steve Yadon** has fainted and **Sam McCauley** is clutching his back. I guess we will wait a few more years. . . .

Unit Profile Court-On-Call Liaison Unit

The Court-on-Call Liaison Unit is responsible for getting officers to

respond to court within one hour of a request by the City Attorney or District Attorney's office. This can be a difficult task in the day of "answering machines" and "voice mail." Does anyone actually answer a phone anymore? We know many officers live far from the downtown area and one hour is not very much time. If there is a problem, please let us know and we will personally speak to the City or District Attorney. We can always work something out. In addition, if you have signed for a subpoena, be available. It does not matter to the court that it is your day off, your child is sick, or it's a great day for surfing! If a body attachment is placed on you, it is very embarrassing when you have to stand before the judge with your captain and representative of the Protective League and the Chief's office. The judge may be lenient, but the Department will initiate a Personnel Complaint. Save yourself some grief. Call us for any advice—we are available from 0630 until the last LAPD officer leaves court for the day—(213) 485-4201.

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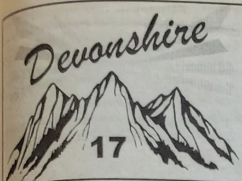
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by Officer Amanda Chapin
& Officer Fred Cueto
Devonshire Division

211 Caper

On 2/6/01, at approximately 0540 hours, Officers Sanchez, #34298, and Moakley, #34292, were working morning patrol when they heard a crime broadcast for a 211 suspect from the area of 8245 Remett Ave. (West Valley). An additional 211 broadcast was simulcast at 7200 Mason Ave. The suspect was described as a male black wearing a watch cap, dark clothing, armed with a gun. The last known location of the suspect was northbound Mason Ave. Officers noted the close proximity of the occurrences and were checking for a possible matching suspect in the area of Mason and Roscoe.

Officers observed a blue van enter the parking lot at 20531 Roscoe Blvd. The van backed into the closest parking

pulled into a parking spot and the driver (who was later identified as the deft.) exited the van and stood near the van. Officers quickly responded to where the van was and exited their vehicle and began to give verbal commands to the driver. The driver put his hands up and dropped to his knees. He then stood up and began to run around to the front of the van. The driver then ran northbound in the corridor west of 20522 Roscoe Blvd. The driver ran northbound and climbed a fence to Schoenborn St. The driver was commanded to go to his knees. At this point the driver complied with the officers' commands and was placed into custody without incident.

Officers Lozano, #32100, and Wheeler, #35748, arrived at scene and secured the van driven by the deft. They recovered a black "BB" gun sitting on top of the passenger seat.

Officers contacted West Valley (10A33) who was handling the 211 on Mason Ave. Officers arrived from West Valley and conducted a field show with the victim. The victim identified the deft. As the one who robbed him.

Good job to all!!!

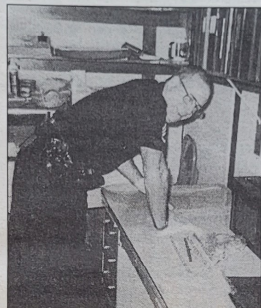
Homicide #01-1

On Jan. 5th at 1850 hours, Devonshire Area officers responded to a report of shots fired near the intersection of Nordhoff Street and Tobias Avenue. Upon their arrival, the officers discov-

bery that occurred in Devonshire Area in November. Available information indicates the suspect fled from the area and may be in Las Vegas. Efforts to locate Silas on the outstanding robbery warrant are continuing. The murder investigation is continued pending submission of the case to the District Attorney for filing consideration. The victim was allegedly loosely affiliated with a street gang based in Long Beach; however, there has not been any documented gang affiliation found regarding victim Earle.

Spring Cleaning

Sgt. Il L. Farell, #15517, is doing a little extra clean up around the station. Hey, Sarge, you missed a spot! Someone better check his work permit.



Sgt. Il Farell #15517.

Gun Slingers

Members of the Devonshire Pistol Team, Officer Thompson, #26518, Officer Judge, #27699, Officer Druyun,

#33133, and Officer Galbraith, #32081, recently competed in the L.A. County Sheriff's Charity Shoot-Out at Pitchess Honor Ranch.

Christian Marriage Conference

Special invitation to all L.A. County Police and Fire Sworn and Civilian Personnel. Presented by Family Life Ministries, Mother's Day weekend, 2001. For more information, contact Officer Ken Crawford: 818-948-4040 or gotocig2000.com.

Hellos and Goodbyes

Warm welcomes to Sgt. I T. Bell, #26627, Det. I M. Morlan, #31309, Det. I J. Thornton, #26610, Det. I R. Lozano, #31439, Det. III P. Ferguson, #25036, Sgt. I J. Beatty, #27023, Sgt. I F. Whitman, #24500, P.O. III J. Hill, #30474, P.O. III D. Neville, #26324, P.O. III A. Azevedo, #33005, P.O. II T. Kohl, #35353, P.O. II R. Tamate, #35410.

Farewell to Sgt. II N. Macarthur, #22004, who made lieutenant at Foothill Division.

Good luck to P.O. III T. Sincoc, #20989, who made Sgt. I at West L.A.

C-ya to Sgt. I R. Ginther, #27206, and Sgt. I A. Tom, #27453, both moving not too far from home at Foothill Division.

Sad goodbyes to P.O. III K. Haskins, #30705, traveling downtown to Management Service Division.

Last, but not least, bye-bye to P.O. II T. Gandara, working Transit But.

Remember to all who have left, Devonshire will always be home. ❖



(L-R): Ofcr. Thompson #26518, Ofcr. Judge #27699, Ofcr. Druyun #33133, Ofcr. Galbraith #32081.

space to the front door of the 7-11. A male black wearing dark clothing and a watch cap exited the van. The suspect seemed very nervous as he walked around his van. The suspect then entered the van and closed the passenger door.

Officer Moakley used his binoculars to obtain the license plate of the van. Officer conducted a want/warranty/DMV check on the license plate, via the MDT. The van returned as a 211/GTA and 2/2/01 from Devonshire Division. Officer Moakley broadcasted the location and requested additional units to their location.

The van began to exit the parking lot southbound and entered another parking lot directly west of the location. The van

ered the body of victim, Dwayne Earle. He was lying in a carport alleyway to the rear of a townhouse complex located at 14657 Nordhoff Street in North Hills. Several witnesses indicated a large group had gathered in the alley prior to the shooting. The victim arrived by himself in a vehicle and was immediately confronted by a male suspect, who shot the victim for an unknown reason. The suspect fled in a vehicle accompanied by two to three associates.

A lengthy investigation by the Homicide personnel revealed that the likely shooter was Silas Johnson, a "Ligget Street" gang member. The detectives learned Johnson is currently wanted relative to a home invasion rob-

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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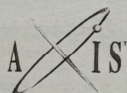
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DIVISIONAL REPORTER



by Jeff Churchill
Newton Division

Commendable Capers

On January 25, 2001, Reserve Officer **Steve Bertolino** and the Newton Day Watch officers hosted another "Cop for a Day." **Margarite Rodriguez**, who's suffering from "Turners Syndrome," an illness that affects the central nervous system and causes Margarite to have no appetite, with no known cure, was sworn in during roll call by Lt. **Marty Cotwright**. A small army of news media was in attendance at Newton's Day Watch Roll Call for the festivities.

Margarite's day included donuts and hot chocolate at the local Winchell's, a press conference at Air Support Division hosted by Capt. **Hillman** with a ride aboard one of Air Support's air units. A boat ride with Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department out in Marina del Rey and lunch with Los Angeles City Fire Department in Venice.

It looks like Margarite had a full day. Great job, Steve!

On March 3, 2001, Officer **Rudy Barragan** was returning from Jail Division when several frantic citizens in the area of 6th Street and San Pedro Street flagged him down. Officer Rudy Barragan, exemplifying the tradition of the Los Angeles Police Department's motto, "To protect and to serve," assisted the citizens who were attempting to revive an unconscious male transient.

Officer Rudy Barragan acted quickly, checking the pulse and respiration and determined that the transient was not breathing. Officer Rudy Barragan requested an ambulance and with the assistance of another transient he coordinated and administered CPR. When Los Angeles City Fire Department's Rescue 3 arrived, the transient's breathing rate was 4 to 6 breaths per minute. Paramedic Rick Watson determined that the transient's respiratory system was depressed and his physical condition was severe. The transient was transported to USCMC emergency where he was treated and was listed in stable condition.

Without Officer Rudy Barragan's direct involvement, the transient's life was in peril. His actions exemplify the

traditions of a Los Angeles Police Officer.

Officer Rudy Barragan has been recommended for the Department's Lifesaving Medal. Outstanding, Rudy!

Ins and Outs

Welcome and congratulations go to Sgts. **G. Garcia** from 77th Division, **R. Pedroza** from Southeast Division, and **R. Marquez** from Southwest Division. Also, Dets. **S. Romero** from Harbor Division, **G. Ramirez** from Metropolitan Division and **J. Stabler** from Internal Affairs Group. Officers **B. Manrot** from Southeast and **A. Pomeroy** from Southeast. And finally, Probationary Officers **A. Ibanez** and **R. Ramos** from Training Division.

A big see ya goes to Sgt. **Terri Gutierrez**, heading over to Wilshire as a Det. 1 (good luck in the future), Sgt. **Andrea Grossman**, heading over to Internal Affairs Group as a Sgt. 11, Sgt.

Helen Dunkin, wheeling over to Pacific Division, Det. **Rebecca Camacho** is leaving us for Juvenile Division, Officer **Jose Martinez** is also going to Juvenile Division, Officer **Kevin Gallagher** going up to Air Support Division, Officer **Christopher Linscomb** heading over to Central Bureau, Officer **Robert Beckers** is south to Harbor Division and **Chris Chavez** is westbound to Wilshire.

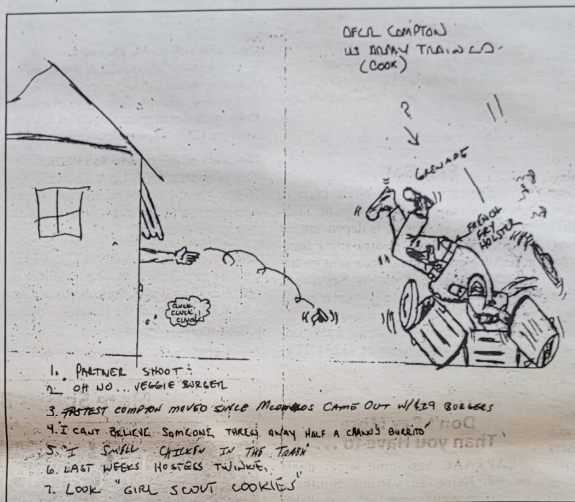
And, off to other pastures is Sgt. **Katie Sloan**, who finally got her pension, Officer **Susan Spencer**, going to Los Angeles City Fire Department, and Officer **Richard Browning** is off to Placentia Police Department. Good luck to all of you in your future endeavors.

New Newtonites

Kim Doster, wife of Officer **Lyman Doster**, gave birth to Kristopher Paul on Jan. 18, 2001. Kristopher weighed in at 6 lbs., 3 oz. with a height of 18 inches. **Sophia Reyes**, wife of Officer **Guillermo "Mimo" Reyes**, gave birth to Nicolas Alexander on Feb. 28, 2001. Nicolas weighed in at 7 lbs., 13 oz. with a height of 20-1/2 inches. Congratulations!

One Thing About Newton, You Never Want to Let Your Guard Down. You Could Make the Comics

Apparently Officer **Richard Compton** was involved in a tactical operation during morning watch. He was standing near a window when he heard a light clanging sound on the walkway nearby. So, Officer Compton radioed to his fellow officers stating what he had heard and mistakenly made the comment that it sounded like the spoon of a hand grenade, when in fact it was the magazine of a handgun.



1. PARTIAL SHOOT
2. OFF NO... VEGGIE BUREN
3. FASTEST COMPTON MOVED SINCE MURDERERS CAME OUT WITH BOLLIES
4. I CAN'T BELIEVE SOMEONE THREW AWAY HALF A CHINA'S BUREN
5. I SWEET CHICKEN IN THE TRAIN
6. LAST WEEKS HOSTESS TWILITE
7. LOOK "GIRL SCOUT COOKIES"

USD Uniformed Support Division

by Officer Christopher Watson
Uniformed Support Division
Emergency Operations Section

So what is the key to surviving earthquakes? Three things—plan ahead, plan ahead, plan ahead. As prepared as we are in the law enforcement community to respond to other people's problems, it seems ironic that so many of us are unprepared to help ourselves. Let's

face it, we live in Southern California, the most disaster-prone region in the nation. We have more natural disasters in Southern California than anywhere in the United States. It kind of makes you proud, doesn't it.

As most sixth graders know, earthquakes occur along fault lines. The capacity for a fault to produce a large earthquake is directly proportionate to the size of the fault. So a small fault will shake your dog's house off its foundation, a big fault will shake your house off its foundations and walk it into the neighbor's backyard.

In Southern California we have 200 faults that can produce a magnitude-6 quake or bigger, and those are just the faults we know about. To put that in perspective, a magnitude 6 will break windows, do minor damage to unreinforced masonry, and spill your mother's hand-

made china collection all over the kitchen linoleum. The San Andreas Fault, considered a "master" fault, is capable of an 8.0 magnitude quake. It is 800 miles long and 10 miles deep. The technical term for a fault this size is BIG, DARN BIG. This fault produces a large quake approximately every 130 years. One hundred and forty-four years ago this sleeping giant had its last big quake in Southern California stretching from Parkfield in southern Monterey County to Cajun Creek in San Bernardino County. It measured an estimated 7.8 magnitude. This fault was also responsible for the 1906 San Francisco earthquake that devastated that city.

The San Andreas is not the only bully on the block. There are several large faults crossing the region on land and along the ocean floor, all of which are capable of putting on a big show. With so many players in the area, that leaves every Southern California resident within 30 miles of a good-sized fault. That is equal opportunity disaster.

We know they are possible and ultimately inevitable, so before the next shaker, do the following:

Update, or for some of you actually put together, an emergency supply kit. Include non-perishable food and drink-

ing water, first aid supplies, flashlights, battery-operated radio, extra shoes and clothing, and anything else you might need, just keep it simple.

Find someone you know out of state to be used as a contact. After an earthquake, telephones, both cell sites and landlines, tend to jam in the impacted area. You can, however, usually call out of state (don't ask me why, it just works that way).

Identify safe spots and hazards in your house (i.e., do not dive for cover under your wife's antique freestanding solid oak china hutch).

Know how to turn off your utilities. Nothing worse than surviving an earthquake than to singe off all your facial hair trying to turn off your gas.

Earthquakes are inevitable when living in Southern California, no big surprise. They can be big or small, again no big surprise. We need to prepare for them both for our sake and our family's sake. Let's face it, it's not brain surgery. It's simple, just get it done.

If you want to know more on how to prepare for an earthquake, contact the Emergency Operations Section at (213) 485-4011.

(For more information, log onto www.cert-la.com.)



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SPORTS BEAT

Sports Beat is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. For information about submissions to Sports Beat, please call the Sports Beat Info Line at (323) 221-5222, ext. 800.

LAPRAAC Sports Roundup

by Lew Snow,
LAPRAAC Sports Beat Editor

At our deadline for this month's *The Thin Blue Line*, the Captain Al Nelson Tournament was underway to decide this year's intradepartmental basketball champion. League play ended in late February but with all the forfeits and dropouts, it was practically impossible to come up with any meaningful league standings.

DARE, first place in "A" League play, is looking for its third straight LAPD crown. They face an uphill battle as they were knocked into the losers bracket by Southwest. At our deadline, Southwest had already made it to the final round while DARE and Hollywood were to meet and settle who would play Southwest for the title. Both teams were beaten by the Southies in the early rounds.

Over in the "B" League Metro, first in league play, is set to meet Training for the tournament championship. In the "C" League winner of the Harbor v. Rampart game will go to the title round. Loser of that game will face either Foothill, Newton, Southwest, or Wilshire (first place during the season), all currently battling it out, to determine who also goes to the finals. In "D" League action, the game featuring First place Finisher Pacific v. Narcotics will decide who goes to the title round from the winners bracket. The losers bracket battle pits that game's loser against either the Captains, Hollywood or Rampart.

June is Busting Out All Over ...

Many department athletes are making plans to invade Indianapolis, Indiana, in June to compete in the World Police and Fire Games. Over 8,000 athletes from 50 countries will participate in this clamor of international law enforcement camaraderie.

LAPD will be represented by the Grey (masters) and Stick Time (co-ed) softball teams, men's and women's basketball teams, golf team, and Action Pistol team, and individuals competing in motocross, track and field, tennis and wrestling.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Play Ball ...

Intradepartmental slo-pitch play is scheduled to get underway in mid-month. This, of course, is dependent on whether this year's bizarre rains postponed the pre-season tournament in late March at Hjelte Park in Sepulveda Basin. (Hard to field a grounder when you're up to your knees in mud!)

For game schedules, call the Sports Beat Info Line at (323) 221-5222, ext. 800.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Don't Pay More Than you Have to ...

LAPRAAC has some super deals on admission to various Southern California amusement parks, available to all LAPD personnel and their families. Among the highlights:

Half price tickets to Magic Mountain.

Adults \$20.50, kids \$12. Buy before June 30, good through the end of the year!

Half price tickets to Knott's Berry Farm.

Adults \$20.50, kids \$15. Good year-round.

Discount passports for Disneyland.

Experience Disneyland for only \$33, or plan a two-dayer and add California Adventure for another \$33. Good through June 20 (except Saturdays and Memorial Day).

Discount tickets for Wizards.

L.A.'s hottest Magic Club and Dinner Theater. Adults \$32, kids \$20. Good every day except Saturday evenings. Price includes dinner, show and tax (but not tip). Offer expires November 30.

Discount admission to Sea World.

Get your free Club USA card and San Diego Vacation Kit to receive \$6 off admission, plus great discount coupons.

Information on other specials is available by calling (323) 221-5222. Tickets can be purchased at the LAPRAAC office at the Elysian Park Academy and LAPRAAC store at the Recruit Training Center in Westchester.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Eat at the Academy Café

Good hearty fare . . . reasonable prices . . . what more can you ask? The Elysian Park Academy Café is open weekdays from 0700-1400. For seminars, luncheons, meetings and retirement dinners, there's meeting rooms, the Academy Lounge, the Rock Garden and (if you've got a big crowd) the Gym. Support those who support you by patronizing the Café and banquet facilities at the Academy. For more details, contact Debbie or Marilyn at (323) 221-5222, ext. 215.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

We Want Your Articles

Let us publicize your sport by submitting an article for publication in "Sports Beat." It's easy—fax articles to (818) 957-4275 or e-mail to lewsnow@aol.com. Even if you just send notes we can transform them into an article that gets the word out. Articles received by the fifth of the month will be included in the next issue. Photographs are welcome, too. Indicate on your fax or e-mail you have photos and we'll contact you.

✧

More Sports Beat on next page

Because Your Life May Depend On It...

You can now get information to help reach your top physical condition. There's a valuable benefit to Los Angeles Police Relief Association (LAPRA) members who have chosen Blue Cross of California Prudent Buyer (PPO) as their health plan. If you're among that group and are the main subscriber, you're entitled to an annual comprehensive health and fitness evaluation at Centinela Hospital's Fitness Institute.*

This evaluation, which goes beyond the standard mix of x-rays and blood tests, is supervised by a physician board certified in preventive medicine who performs a comprehensive physical examination, which includes:

- Cardiovascular health testing with a treadmill stress test
- Lab tests
- Chest x-rays
- Vision and hearing exams
- Body fat, strength and flexibility analysis
- Pap smears for women and prostate screenings for men
- Nutritional consultation

Upon completion, you'll meet with our exercise physiologist to discuss the evaluation and receive a personalized handbook with testing results.

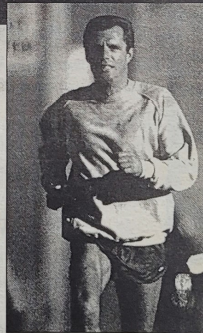
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* Any optional tests or services rendered will be the responsibility of the individual.



LAPD CENTURIONS 2001 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, APRIL 7TH

2nd Annual

Baker to Vegas Bowl

1:00 p.m.

Palo Verde High School

333 Pavilion Center Dr.

Las Vegas, Nevada

"South Bay Blue Knights"

SATURDAY, APRIL 21ST

4:00 p.m.

Double Header

"NYPD's Finest"

West Torrance High School

20401 Victor Street,

Torrance, CA

SATURDAY, MAY 5TH

Tentative Game

Location & Time to be Announced

SATURDAY, MAY 19TH

4:00 p.m. — Double Header

L.A. City/County Fire Dept.'s

"L.A. Heat"

West Torrance High School

20401 Victor Street,

Torrance, CA

JUNE 2, 2001

National Public Safety

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Championship Game

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SPORTS BEAT

Team from Australia Highlights Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay

by Lew Snow,
LAPRAAC Sports Editor

Scores of Aussies will make a tactical invasion of the Mojave Desert this weekend when a team representing Queensland Police Services runs in the 17th annual Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay, sponsored by the Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club. This is the first time a team from the home of Crocodile Dundee, kangaroos, and koalas has participated in what has become the largest law enforcement competition in the world.

Over 4,000 runners, including some from Canada, put the rubber to the pavement on Saturday, April 7. The California Highway Patrol is hoping to repeat its Y2K victory, finishing seven minutes ahead of the LAPD Metro Red Team, winner of the 1998 and 1999 races.

Wilshire Division, which last year won the Stations Category (for patrol units), is hoping that lightning truly does strike twice. They finished 84 seconds ahead of perennial winner, LASD Lakewood Station. Baca's Boyz usually dominate this category, taking the second through seventh finishes in 2000.

The desert heat will be back as a factor in this year's race, with the first runners taking off from a starting point some 19 miles north of Baker (off Interstate 15 some 200 miles northeast of Los Angeles) at 1630 hours. Over 200 teams have entered the race, with the "elite" flite for the fastest teams slated for the starter's pistol at 1700.

Teams consist of 20 runners who each run a leg of approximately six miles.

Runners follow Highway 127 north to Shoshone (entranceway to Death

Valley), then hang a right along Highway 178 and climb over the mountains to Pahrump, Nevada. Another right turn onto Highway 160 takes these mountain goats masquerading as runners over Mountain Springs Summit (5,600 ft.) and along a winding route through the western part of Las Vegas to the finish line at the Rio Suites and Convention Center. The first place winner is expected to cross the finish line around 0800 on Sunday morning.

In addition to searing heat, past races have also seen blinding dust storms, rain, snow (the 1987 race was halted at the two-thirds point due to blizzard-like conditions), and fierce winds. A few years back, Sheriff Sherman Block, the late L.A. County Sheriff who was a huge supporter of the event, was nearly decapitated when the marquee at the Hacienda Hotel was literally blown into pieces while runners crossed the finish line directly below.

This year's Award Ceremonies will be held at the Rio Suites and Convention Center starting at 1900 on Sunday. Every team will receive a commemorative plaque denoting their finish and the top team in each category will take home commemorative mugs. The overall champion receives handmade sterling silver belt buckles and gains custody of the perpetual trophy until next year's race.

We'll "hold the presses" past deadline and have information on the winner in our next issue of *The Thin Blue Line*. Complete post-race coverage will appear in the June issue. Race results will also be available via the race Web site at www.bakervergas.com and the Sports Beat Info-Line (323) 221-5222, ext. 800.

Thanks to Pacific Area Teams

by Jerry Bautista

At Pacific Area, from 4/1998 to 6/2000, the teams have done very well in the Intra-Departmental Softball League, the Bench Press Competition and the Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay. As the team captain/coach of these teams, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all team members that played or participated as they all contributed to each team's success.

During this period of time, the softball team won or shared the South League Championship in two of the three seasons (1998-2000). The bench press team competed in four semi-annual contests (10/98-5/2000) resulting in one second place and three third place Department finishes. And the Baker to Vegas team followed a long dry spell by having two consecutive (1999 and 2000) successful "mug" achieving efforts in the "mixed" category.

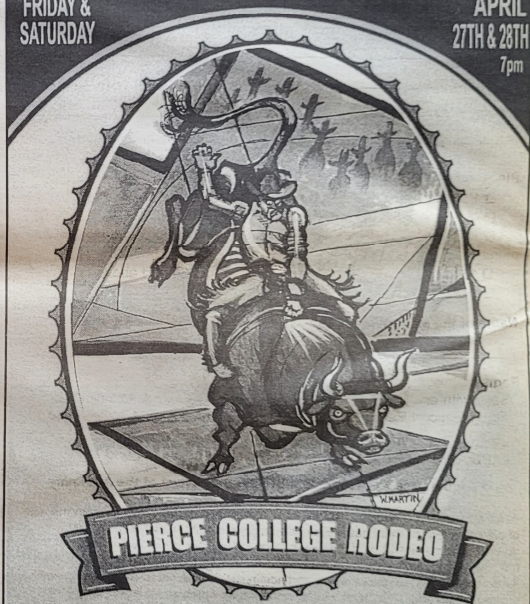
In a team sport, each member is required to do their share to accomplish team goals. The team members

all made certain sacrifices ranging from different watch assignments to traveling from various distances. Everyone was required to participate on one's own time and all team members were asked to set aside their individual goals for those of the team. The end result is that members made the commitment and had the dedication to make each team successful.

After the conclusion of the 2000 softball season in June, I decided to take a break from running all of the teams at Pacific Area. Starting with the Bench Press Competition in October, 2000, I managed to give that up. With help, I have also managed to stay away from the 2001 Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay. Now, with the 2001 softball season here, it looks like I have stayed away from the big test. Since at this time it is unknown how long I will stay away, I want to thank everyone (list posted at Pacific Area Station) that has brought success to the teams I've been associated with. THANKS!

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SATURDAY

APRIL
27TH & 28TH
7pm



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VOLLEYBALL

Men's and Women's Volleyball is Here Again!

Practices begin every Wednesday starting April 4th. Practices are from 1900 hours to 2130 hours in the Academy Gym.

We are always looking for new members so all are welcome. The World Games will be in June and we will be participating in the California Police and Fire Games, scheduled for Aug. 23-24 in San Jose.

If you have any questions,
please contact the following people:

Andy Smith (men's coach) v/m 213-968-6236 or Julie Stranahan (women's coach) 818-823-5000, ext. 8546 or by intradepartment e-mail.

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APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE FOR MEMORIAL RUN ON MAY 12

Hundreds of LAPD officers, their family and friends will descend upon Dockweiler Beach in Playa del Rey for the 23rd Annual Memorial Run and Relay, to be held on Saturday, May 12. This year's race will pay special tribute to the memory of Officer Robert Mata, assigned to Harbor Division's Special Enforcement Unit, who died in a September from injuries sustained in a traffic accident while rolling to assist a fellow officer.

Finishing touches for the ultimate LAPD family day were still being finalized at our press deadline, but race-sponsor LAPAAC promises something for almost everybody: moon bounces, LAPD displays and, of course, free lunch and beverages for all participants. Also returning is the rock climbing wall, last year's most popular attraction.

In addition, there will be the traditional "opportunity" drawing, including a bicycle and Kenwood stereo

(obtained by long-time LAPAAC friend Kenny Taniguchi), tickets to area attractions (Sea World, Universal Studios, Knott's Berry Farm, Disneyland, Magic Mountain, Legoland, etc.), and lots, lots more.

New this year is a one-mile walk, especially geared to the couch potato set, held simultaneously with the "Munchkin Mile" (one-mile fun run for children age 12 and under). Metro Division will be trying to win its fourth straight relay and fifth straight perpetual trophy. With the early-year rainy weather hopefully behind us, runners should have a crisp but clear morning with their concentration broken only by the swishing of ocean waves and ear-shattering scream of planes taking off from LAX every minute.

The day begins at 0815 hours with the one-mile events, utilizing the utility road that runs along the beach cliffs. The 5K Individual run, which takes off at 0845, is open to all comers in all age

categories. Open only to LAPD personnel is the 25K Relay, consisting of five runners per team. Only sworn personnel can compete in the open, female, mixed (minimum two females), masters (combined age 200+), golden masters (combined age 225+), heavyweight (runners 200 lbs. or heavier), and supervisors (sergeant/detective and above) groupings. Full time civilian employees can compete in the invitational category.

Prior to start of the 25K, at approximately 0930, the "official ceremonies" will take place, including the LAPD Color Guard, prayer service, helicopter fly-by in the lost man formation, national anthem, and short remarks by Chief Bernard Parks.

Entry fees for the events are \$15 for the fun run and one-mile walk, \$25 for the 5K and \$125 per team for the 25K. Entry fee includes a multi-colored t-shirt, bracelet with the name of an officer killed in the line of duty over the

department's nearly 150-year history, and ticket for a free lunch. Runners may request a bracelet with the name of a specific officer they wish to honor and all participants automatically qualify for the after-race "opportunity" drawing.

Dockweiler Beach is located at the end of the Century Freeway/Imperial Highway and there is plenty of space to plan an all-day outing. Race packages (including bibs and t-shirts) should be picked up one week before the race. Late registration will be accepted on race day from 0700-8000, but there is no guarantee of receiving a t-shirt.

Applications are available at all LAPD divisions and units, as well as at the Recruit Training Center in Westchester and the Police Academy in Elysian Park. They can also be obtained by calling Athletic Department Secretary Agnes Miranda at (323) 221-5222, ext. 218/219.

LAPD MEMORIAL RUN—INDIVIDUAL ENTRY (Open to anyone)

Please Print

Last name: _____ First name: _____

Work phone: _____ Pager: _____

Home phone: _____

Division/Area representing _____

☐ Male ☐ Female Age _____ as of race date

Please check the appropriate box:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 12 & Under Fun Run (1 Mile) | <input type="checkbox"/> 21 to 29 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> One-mile walk | <input type="checkbox"/> 30 to 39 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 12 & Under (5KM) | <input type="checkbox"/> 40 to 49 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13 to 15 | <input type="checkbox"/> 50 to 59 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 16 to 17 | <input type="checkbox"/> 60 and above |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18 to 20 | |

Name of the slain officer you wish to run for _____

Registration: Make checks payable to LAPAAC.

Send with entry form to: Los Angeles Police Revolver & Athletic Club
Attn: Memorial Relay, P.O. Box 861148, Los Angeles, CA 90086-1148

Or Intra Department mail to

LAPD Athletic Director, Officer Tony Adler, CED Stop 412

Pick up race packets one week prior to event at the Academy

Each runner that is participating must sign the waiver. If the runner is under the age of eighteen, he/she must have a permission signature from his/her parent or guardian. In consideration of the acceptance of the entry in said 3.1 mile run and/or marathon race, we the above participants intending to be legally bound, do hereby, for ourselves, our heirs, executors, and administrators, waive, release, and forever discharge any and all rights or claims for damages which we, or either of us may have of which hereafter occur to us against LAPAAC, or the city of Los Angeles while participating in said race understand as a sworn officer of the Los Angeles Police Department, that this race does not carry coverage for injury on duty status and I will be responsible for any injuries.

Signature _____ Date _____

Parent's signature if under the age of 18 _____

LAPD MEMORIAL RUN—TEAM ENTRY (LAPD Personnel only)

Please Print

TEAM CAPTAIN: (last) _____ (first) _____

Work phone: _____ Pager _____

Home phone: _____

Division/Area representing _____

Team name: _____

Please check the appropriate box:

- ☐ Open
- ☐ Females
- ☐ Mixed Couples (minimum 2 females)
- ☐ Masters (Combined age over 200 years)
- ☐ Golden Masters (Combined age over 225 years)
- ☐ 200 #'s (each must weigh 200 #'s or more)
- ☐ Supervisors (Sergeant/Detective and above)
- ☐ Invitational (All civilian. Full time employees of LAPD)

Enter the name of the slain officer you wish to run for _____

Name: LAST, First Sex T-size Age Weight Signature

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Team Runners may run in any order. Runners may be substituted with another from same Area/Division.

Total AGE for Master/Grand Master Category _____

Total weight for 200 lb. category _____

Registration: Make checks payable to LAPAAC.

Send with entry form to: Los Angeles Police Revolver & Athletic Club
Attn: Memorial Relay, P.O. Box 861148, Los Angeles, CA 90086-1148

Or Intra Department mail to

LAPD Athletic Director, Ofcr Tony Adler, CED Stop 412, 323-221-5222, X-218

Pick up race packets one week prior to event at the Academy

KEEP UP TO DATE ON THE LATEST IN LAPD SPORTS

SPORTS BEAT INFO LINE
(323) 221-5222 ext 800

Whether it's schedule changes, newly announced events, or scores of recent games, call the Sports Beat Info Line for the latest details. Athletic Director Tony Adler updates the message weekly, or more often, as events warrant.

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President
Retired LAPD officer

Richard Sweet
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SPORTS BEAT

LAPD Baseball Team to Compete in Arizona Police Games

by Mike Scott

Manager Tim Moss and new head coach Ernie Fischer are shepherding their squad of 20 hard-charged round-ballers to the Arizona Police Games on March 15-17 in Mesa and Gilbert. The baseball team has been restlessly practicing on Thursdays and Saturdays in preparation for the grueling competition. To their already powerful lineup they have added a variety of hard-charged, dedicated, talented players from all LAPD divisions.

After the games the LAPD baseball team will join the 2001 Pacific Coast

Baseball League with games played on Sundays at local colleges and universities. They have made incredible progress with dedication and hard work from both coaches and players. The ultimate battle will be the California Fire and Police Games, August 10-18 in San Jose.

"LAPD officers have stood up and answered. We will take gold in Arizona and San Jose," says team captain Mike Scott.

For more information on the LAPD baseball team, including game schedules, contact Tim Moss at (818) 756-8285.

LAPD Motocross Team Remembers a Racing Legend

by Rich Swisher

Well race fans, the Mudslingers, and I'm sure many of their followers, are kicking off this new race, Fire and Police Motocross Nationals season with a bit of a heavy heart. As you all surely know by now, racing has lost one of, if not the, greatest icons of all time. Seven time NASCAR Winston Cup champion, Dale "The Intimidator" Earnhardt, took his final lap in the Daytona 500 on February 18th of this year. For those of us that race motocross and surely for those that race just about anything, Earnhardt stood for the raw core of what racing is all about. On the track his never-say-quit drive to be the very best led him to battle fiercely with any and all that dared try to get to the checkers before him. Off the track, that same drive to be the best was just as passionate, and you could see it in the relationships with his wife, his children, his friends, and everyone he came into contact with. In his only win ever of the Daytona 500, not only did his own pit crew come out to congratulate him on pit row, but his competitor's pit crews (who just seconds before had been trying everything they could to beat him) formed a line to congratulate this racer's racer as well. A heartwarming sight, unseen in motorsport racing. Since the tragic accident that took The Intimidator's life, I have seen countless hours of touching scenes and testimonials from every aspect of Earnhardt's life. Every reel varied, but the way he handled himself and the impression he left on everyone, love it or hate it, as a constant. He was the tough as nails, viciously competitive Intimidator, and the tender, loving father, husband, friend and mentor at the same time. What I believe it all boils down to is that Dale Earnhardt



learned what counted, when it counted, and what it was worth. The thing that lifted him above so many other great champions was his absolute commitment to making it count. I think that all of us men and women in blue can, like many NASCAR racers have, learn an extraordinarily valuable lesson from Earnhardt.

When you are at work, work is what counts. Be the very best at what you are doing and don't settle for less than your full potential for a second. When you are at home, family is what counts. Focus all of your energy on being the very best spouse, parent and friend you can possibly be, and never allow yourself to slack in this for a second. And every minute of every day and night, realize that you are a child of God that can be called home at any time no matter who you are, so live your life according to his word! Know what counts, when it counts and how much it is worth. God speed Dale Earnhardt. May your efforts here on earth be an example of those you left behind.

P.S. The opening rounds for the 2001 Fire and Police Motocross Nationals will be held on Monday, April 2nd, and Tuesday, April 3rd, at Glen Helen Raceway in San Bernardino, right next to the San Bernardino Sheriff's EVOC course. Racing starts at 9:00 a.m. each day and ends in the afternoon. The track has nice restrooms, a burger stand, bleachers and a play area for kids. Come out and watch the 33 LAPD racers of the LAPRAAC, FMF RACING, TROY LEE DESIGNS, ACERBIS, IMS RACING, SMITH OPTICS, MAXIMA RACING OILS, WISECO PISTONS, FACTORY 909, BELL HELMETS, sponsored LAPD Mudslingers motocross team take on the rest of the nation!

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MANOS ARRIBA GOLF CLASSIC

Saturday, June 2nd

Mesquite Golf & Country Club
2700 E. Mesquite Avenue, Palm Springs, Calif.

Check in 6:15 a.m.

Shotgun Start 7:30 a.m.

\$95.00 Per Person Four-person Scramble

\$105.00 after May 4, 2001 - Deadline is May 18, 2001

Tournament Fees Include:

Gift Bag, Shirt, Green Fees, Golf Cart, Dinner, Drinks & hole in one contest.

Hotel Accommodations:

are available for \$89.00 per night at the Palm Mountain Resort Holiday Inn, located at 155 S. Belardo, Palm Springs. One half block off Palm Canyon Drive (Hwy 111). Phone: 800-622-9451

For this special rate, contact Barbara Lyons. Rates will be held until May 1, 2001. Rooms are limited, so book early!!

If you have a team, please list them all and submit the fees. If not, we will be happy to match you up with a team.

For more information, contact:

Tournament Founder, Salvador Jaramillo, 310-529-7539.
Director Public Relations, Doris Andrews, 310-529-5972.

Send your entry and make your checks payable to **Manos Arriba:**
Manos Arriba Golf, 800 S. Pacific Coast Highway, #8105, Redondo Beach, CA 90277.

| | | | |
|--|------------------|---|------------------|
| Player #1 | _____ | Player #3 | _____ |
| Phone _____ | Shirt size _____ | Phone _____ | Shirt size _____ |
| Player #2 | _____ | Player #4 | _____ |
| Phone _____ | Shirt size _____ | Phone _____ | Shirt size _____ |
| Please add \$15 per guest if they will be attending the banquet with a player. | | \$95.00 per player: \$15.00 per guest: | |
| | | Grand total: _____ | |

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De Bell Golf Course

Friday, May 25th

Consecutive tee-times beginning at 1000 hours

Divisional Teams:

(4 players from same division with established handicaps)

Individuals are invited to play.

\$50 fee: includes green fees, cart, snack and drink.

Trophies for low net, low gross team and individual.

The sooner you pay, the sooner your tee time.

Fees must be paid no later than May 9, 2001.

We need to make definite arrangements and pay the golf course up front. We have 62 playing spots and they sell out quick!

The club is currently accepting new members.

The annual dues are \$40. This includes SCGA package and index. Come join now to qualify for the California Summer Games.

It is very important that everyone adhere to the dress code, collared shirts, no Levis. Soft spikes!

For Tournament registration, please contact our

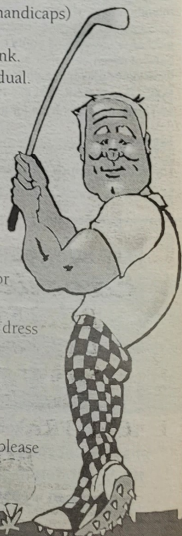
Tournament Chairman Sgt. Damien Gutierrez.

Devonshire Vice Mail Stop 401, 818-756-8279.

For further information and club membership, please

contact the Golf Club Chairman Officer

Sal Jaramillo, 310-529-7539.



RETIREMENT NEWS



The Retirement News is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. Retirees may submit articles for publication. Deadline for submission is the 6th of the month for the following month's issue date.

Old Blue Running Team

by Neil Parker
Photo by Mike Melancon

Spring has sprung, daylight savings time has rung, and I sure hope that the warm weather is here to stay. Especially for the 17th running of the Chuck Foote and Larry Moore inspired Baker to Vegas Relay Race that will take place on the Palm Sunday/Passover weekend, April 7th and 8th. A nice change for this year is that the finish line has been moved to the Rio Hotel making everything pretty convenient, especially for after the race activities. It always amazes me how many old friends and partners that you had almost forgotten were still on the face of this planet that you run into somewhere during race weekend. And then the "remember that time that we did this and such" begins, usually followed by peals of laughter and then an exchange of phone numbers with a promise to "give me a call and we'll do lunch of something." Lunch, of course, may or may not materialize but it's a nice touch to bump into an old pal and his wife, bring each other quickly up to date on some of the recent really important events and then try to run a time frame through your mind as to when would be a good time to meet up again. If you are with your wife, though, you may find your reverie being bumped as her inquisitive voice innocently asks, "Do you think I look younger than her?" There is, of course, only one correct answer.

Who's going to win? I would have to go with one of the two favorites if I was tempted to bet on the outcome of a long distance pedestrian foot contest. But since the team eligibility rules have been changed somewhat this year, I think I would place a few pounds on Metro-Red. They had consecutive wins in 1998 and 1999 and then lost the crown to CHP-Statewide last year.

Well, that's how races go and it sure would be very boring, to say nothing of disheartening, if the same team or guy or girl or company or horse had a lock on an event and dominated it on every occasion. Nevertheless, while I hope that a previously uncrowned team, say a 10-1 underdog, emerges from the pack

are not a runner, you can be a big help assisting at various races, games, etc. Remember that the proceeds from this LAPRAAC sponsored event go to assist the Family Support Group.

For a short exercise in logic, or perhaps truth in numbers, I first saw the following challenge in the BEAT magazine a long, long time ago. In fact, it was probably around 30 to 35 years ago in a column called "The Iron Horse Men,"

The last two figures will be your age and the others will be your house number. As Jimmy Durante might have said to Mrs. Calabash, "This is 'soytainly' unbelievable!"

We sure hope that all of you wanna-be Irish River Dancers saved some energy from the Paddy's Day celebrations of a few weeks ago and that you are now ready for the really, really big contest—Baker to Vegas, Inc. If it's your first go at B-V, you'll soon find out that while it isn't easy, it's still a lot of fun especially if you prepared and had a plan. By the time you get back home you'll have figured out a couple of things to do differently next year. Yeah, I know, I heard you swearing off anymore races after you crossed the finish line, but it's funny how this race grows on you. And it should. Some of the best cops in the world competed here and if you finished ahead of them, congrats are in order. If you didn't, I'm sure that next year you might.

Meantime, enjoy the event, relax and look up some old partners and we'll see you next year in the winner's circle. The best of luck to you from your future running partners at Old Blue, most of whom are gathered in this photo. L-R: Virginia Van Houtte, Corky Rochlitz, Rudy DeLeon, Mike Dwyer, Bob Espinosa, Bill Osuna, Nancy Gates, Steve Gates, Neil Parker, Dale Sprinkle, Jim Becker, Mike Arroyo, Russ Young, Bob Carter, Mel Sandvig, Chuck McTaggart, Phil Booth, Mike Cherry, Gene Peterson, Jay Hernando, Bruce Hoover, Keith Allen.



(L-R): Virginia Van Houtte, Corky Rochlitz, Rudy DeLeon, Mike Dwyer, Bob Espinosa, Bill Osuna, Nancy Gates, Steve Gates, Neil Parker, Dale Sprinkle, Jim Becker, Mike Arroyo, Russ Young, Bob Carter, Mel Sandvig, Chuck McTaggart, Phil Booth, Mike Cherry, Gene Peterson, Jay Hernando, Bruce Hoover, Keith Allen.

and runs home with the roses, my adventurous side urges me to put a shilling or two on the non-favorite team but my (considerably shrunken) senior citizen brain tells me to play the percentages. So, if you follow me to the window I will definitely be placing a few on my old alma mater, Metro. Unless, of course, I see a sign or omen, or even a message in a fortune cookie that spells out something that resembles "C.H.P.," but hopefully not a citation. Since they bet on everything else in Nevada, USA, I wonder if there is a bookie out there taking action on this race. Who knows . . . could be.

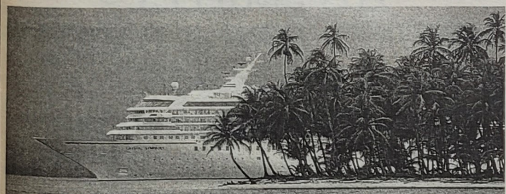
Looking ahead to Saturday, May 12th, bring your kids and family out to Dockweiler Beach for the annual running of the Los Angeles Police Memorial Run and Relay. Even if you

authored as I recall by T.E.D. Sergeant John Arnett. In between tales of bravado, mirth and derring-do as well as dumb deuces, goofier greenies and donkey drivers, he had inserted this amazing but amusing little exercise in his always interesting column. Most adults have seen this numerical exercise somewhere along the way but your grandchildren will think that you are at least as sharp as the Wizard of Oz if you run this by them.

Double your house number and add on 5. Multiply that number by half a hundred and then add on your age. Now add on the number of days in a year and then subtract 615 from that.

More Retirement News on next page

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RETIREMENT NEWS

The Central Coast Fuzz That Wuzz

by Dave Aikins

A big, friendly "Hello" from us Fuzz Folks on the California Central Coast. During the month of March, like most Californians, we have been enduring the strong storms that have attacked the coastal areas. The good news is that the sun has finally come out and dried us out a little. The valleys and hills are now a lush green, sprinkled with cattle that come in all sorts of color combinations. It makes for a nice contrast. It's got to beat the winters in Minnesota, which brings us to one of our favorite Fuzz Guys.

Focus on the Fuzz

Our transplant from Minnesota is a true LAPD veteran from way back in the

WWII days. It's none other than **Warren Sizoo**, #2886 (that # is right!). He was born in the small town of Pipestone, Minnesota, population 3,500 and came out west with his family when he was a young boy of seven years. Warren grew up in Los Angeles and was one of 74 recruits that came on the Department in May of 1942, graduating five weeks later in June. At 21 years of age he was the youngest recruit when he took his oath to faithfully protect the city against all evils. Immediately after graduation, Warren went overseas as a member of the Air Corps, serving with the military police. He was stationed in Australia, finally ending up in the Philippines after General MacArthur returned, as promised. Warren said, laughingly, that when he landed no one was there to take his picture when he came onshore. (Hey, Warren, don't feel bad, MacArthur had to reenact the historic wade-in scene on the beach.)

Officer Sizoo proudly wore the LAPD badge upon return to the Department in March, 1946, after his WWII service. He worked Central Division for seven years and went to Wilshire Division (1953) after making sergeant and was assigned there for four years. The remainder of his career was spent as a detective sergeant in the old DHQ (Detective Headquarters Division). At that time they were the initial rollout detectives on homicides and major crimes who set up the crime scene, until the assigned detectives arrived. An occasional stakeout was also part of the crime suppression menu.

Upon retirement in October of 1967, Warren sold life insurance for a few years and then returned to work as an investigator for DWP in Los Angeles for the next 12 years. After losing his first wife, he later married lovely Muriel, who was a substitute elementary school teacher in Los Angeles. Upon his final retirement in 1986, the Sizooos started looking for another place to live. Several

family members had attended college at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo and recommended the Central Coast area. Taking

sound advice, Warren and Muriel settled in Arroyo Grande in 1989 and have enjoyed their home there.

Warren learned about the Fuzz that Wuzz from **Freeman Calvert** (aka Dagwood), whom he knew from an American Legion Post. Warren joined the group and even ran the organization for a year with **Art Hotchkiss**. Warren and Muriel have derived joy from their three children and four grandkids in retirement and have spent time traveling. They have been very active in their church and have taken a great deal of pleasure from volunteering for its many programs.

Now at 80 years of age, Warren is still full of energy and a wonderful guy to be around. Thanks, Warren, for your great service to the city of Los Angeles and being there for all of us Fuzz Folks.

That's it for now my friends. Catch us at wuzzlapd@aol.com.



Warren Sizoo, Class of June 1942.

Pension Commission Report

by George V. Aliano

Dear Members,

Thank you for allowing me to represent you on the Fire and Police Pension Commission. I appreciate the endorsements given to me by the L.A. Police Protective League, the L.A. Police Command Officers Association, and the United Firefighters of Los Angeles.

I've begun meeting with the staff to the Commission, including the General Manager, as well as members of the various organizations that interact with the Commission. Of course, I will be in close contact with the L.A. Fire and Police Retired Association as we represent the same constituents. Our concern is always the "Fund" and its health.

Although the Pension Commission has no power or authority to create retirement benefits, we do have sole and exclusive responsibility to administer the fund in order to provide the benefits that are granted. We can have a say in those benefits that may be granted, however. That can come about through Charter changes, ordinances or negotiations among the unions and the city and us. It is through a Charter ballot measure in

June of this year that, if passed, will provide for a dental subsidy for retirees. Also in progress is a measure to restore benefits for those excluded under the remarriage penalty. Additionally, an ordinance is being drafted to provide relief for those who were in a group medical plan when they moved out of California, but were then changed to another plan along with a rate increase.

At a recent Commission meeting we approved the search for a health insurance consultant for the purpose of reviewing the health plans negotiated by the Fire Relief and Police Relief Associations for sworn retirees. We need to be in a position to review the audits of these organizations, being conducted by the City. This will allow us to examine the management and administration of the plans for which the City provides subsidies.

When a new mayor takes office this year, no one knows how many of the five civilian appointees on the Commission will be replaced. This could have a profound impact on the many issues that come before us.

Again, my thanks and my commitment to provide the representation you expect.



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LOS ANGELES RETIRED FIRE & POLICE ASSOCIATION

"GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING"

When: May 2, 2001

Location: Grace E. Simons Lodge
1025 Elysian Park Drive,
Elysian Park
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(323) 665-1155

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Coffee and donuts will be served.
For more information, call the office at our
toll free number, (888) 288-5073.

Valley Retired Blues

by Clinton O. Erickson

Our next luncheon meeting will be on April 18, 2001, at "The LAMP-LIGHTER" Restaurant located on the corner of DeSoto and Nordhoff St. There is no set start time, so you may arrive anytime after 10:30 a.m. For those that have never attended, our menu consists of a couple of lunch entries, salads and breakfast in the price range of six to eight dollars.

We had 34 at the February 21st luncheon. The following were present: Gene Allensworth (5058), Bob (7839) & Genie Baker, John Becker (5059), Barney Boronich (3861), Ken (3336) & Shirley Brondell, Ted Debs (6808), Emmett Drennen (3279), Ray Elmer (5607), Clinton Erickson (5608), Bill Feddersen (4823), John Grogan (11852), Mel Harner (4501), Glen Kailey (3503), John Kepke (4603), Tom Lindholm (4734), Bud Long (6680), Bob May (3747), Boris Menghelli (3522), George Moore (10565), Lou Netza (7655), Paul Nicholas (4047), Les

Nolte (10821), Ray Palaszewski (6934), Ben Reinecke (3190), Dale Rickards (3593), Guy Schlottzauer (2804), Stuart Stremsterfer (4394), Norm Sullow (6902), Mel Tousseau (3270), Jim Trax (6185), Gene T. Wallis (11007), and Tim Wilson (MMOC). This was the first time John Grogan, Gene Wallis and Tim Wilson have attended our gathering of Retired Officers and friends.

If any of you reading this column are not members of the Retired Fire and Police Association, I am informing you the Association will be having the annual BBQ on May 2, 2001. It follows the regular meeting at 10:00 a.m. at the Grace E. Simons Lodge, 1025 Elysian Park Drive in Elysian Park. If interested, contact the office at (626) 285-5138, (323) 283-4441, or e-mail LARFP@PacBell.Net to make reservations.

Our meetings are on the third Wednesday of each month. Call me at (818) 340-2430 or e-mail at clintsr@pacbell.net with any information relating to our retired officers. ✧

Inland Blue Line

by Loyd Yandle

"Don't miss this article. It is very important for all retirees."

I have been filling you full of what I believed was extremely important information to everyone over the age of fifty and some younger. I have done a lot of research regarding heart bypasses, for the past year. I truly believe now that very few of those told by doctors really need the heart bypass.

Now I have finally been able to get one of the top doctors on alternative medicine—Dr. Franklin Murphy S.A.C.C.S.A.C.P., a board certified cardiologist from UCLA, as our guest speaker at our April luncheon. Also attending will be the director of one of the top cardiac clinics on the West Coast. Ms. Sara Soulati is director at Cardiac Renewal Center in America. Main office is in Encino, Calif. They will tell you why you don't have to be subjected to scare tactics when a doctor tells you you have chest pains and your angiogram shows you're going to die if you don't have a bypass as soon as possible. One doctor told me and Beverly that Beverly would be dead in a week if she did not have a bypass immediately. Now I learned too late that she did not need a bypass. Medication could have pulled her through.

These doctors have everyone so scared. They think they have to have it done right now. Get a second or third opinion. If you go ahead and have a bypass, you may live from one to five years, some a little longer. These experts will tell you how to keep from having a serious operation. Just give them a chance. It may save your life. You can always go back and make the doctor rich. Also I recently heard they have found a way to do heart bypass without the opening of the chest. Wouldn't that be great.

All in all, come join us for lunch. It may save your life.

I think I told you the price for the luncheon was increased from \$10 to \$11. The restaurant apologized for the increase. They love all of us at the Anchor Restaurant, but due to the increase in cost of living, they had to raise the price of the luncheon. Even at \$11, it is cheaper than most of the other

Blue Line luncheons around the country.

I hate to keep harping about the addresses, but you guys move and you let everyone know but the Blue Line. If you did not receive a notice from me on Jan. 11, 2001, it was because I mailed them out and they came back marked "forwarding has expired." "No such address," etc. I got 12 letters returned so give me your correct address and I will sure invite you to the luncheon. I'm sorry, maybe some of you gave me your new or changed address, but with all I had to go through this past year, I'm not responsible for my actions. We have about six new members who called and said they wanted to join our group. They heard it was a super group and had great speakers. We are still getting lots of retirees even with the raise in gas prices. Some came every time from as far as 260+ miles. I'm sorry for not getting a notice in for March, but I was out of town and was having so much fun it completely slipped my mind. It is surprising how time flies when you're having fun. I have to get the article in to the Protective League by the 6th of the month in order for it to come out in the paper the following month. The staff that read, corrected and published *The Thin Blue Line* does one hell of a job. We at the Inland Blue Line want to congratulate all the staff—"Great job."

I have not heard of any deaths, sickness or laziness so have no news to report.

The next luncheon is Wednesday, April 11, 2001, at Anchor Restaurant, 2524 E. Florida Ave., in Hemet, Calif. Social hour is at 11:00 a.m., lunch at noon, sharp, followed by short news flashes and guest speaker follows that. We are usually out by 3:00 or 3:30 p.m. come and learn how to stay alive. I know I will be there for sure. I want to stick around for a few more years. Doctor told me last week "My heart is wearing out and I have a blockage." I told her "No angiogram, no bypass." I told her "I would die first before I would let anyone do an angiogram or bypass on me."

Hey there are still some who are late on their dues. Don't let the others carry you, and oh yes, buckle up and be careful. It's a jungle out there. Carry a sawed-off shotgun or a big stick. We need you around. ✧

Dates to Remember

| April | | | |
|-------------|--|------|--------|
| April 4 | L.A. Retired Fire & Police General Meeting | 1000 | |
| April 5 | Jim Hamilton & Dennis Drulias | 1100 | |
| April 7 | LAPD Centurions Football v. South Bay @ Palo Verde H.S., Las Vegas, NV | 1300 | |
| April 7 & 8 | Baker-to-Vegas Relay Race | | |
| April 10 | L.A. City Primary Election | 1100 | 1200 |
| April 11 | Inland Blue Line | 1130 | |
| April 12 | S.A.B.L.A. | 1030 | 1200 |
| April 18 | Valley Retired Blues | 1600 | |
| April 21 | LAPD Centurion Football v. NYPD @ West Torrance H.S. | 1100 | |
| April 29 | 18th Pacific Northwest LAPD Retirees Champagne Brunch | | |
| May | | | |
| May 1-31 | LAPPL Delta Dental Open Enrollment | | |
| May 2 | L.A. Retired Fire & Police General Meeting | 1000 | |
| May 4, 5, 6 | Death Valley M/C Ride | 0800 | |
| May 12 | LAPD Memorial Run/Relay Dockweiler Beach | | |
| May 19 | LAPD Centurions Football v. L.A. Heat @ West Torrance H.S. | 1600 | |
| May 20 | S.A.B.L.A. Spring Fling BBQ | | |
| May 25 | LAPD Golf Club @ De Bell G.C. | 1000 | |
| May 31 | John Freitas | 1700 | 1800 ✧ |

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

May 3-4
National Police Week (Memorial Ceremonies, Sacramento)

May 11
National Police Week (Memorial Ceremony, Parker Center) 1300 Hrs.

May 13-19
National Police Week (Memorial Ceremonies, Washington, D.C., May 13) ✧

More Retirement News on next page



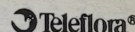
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RETIREMENT NEWS

SABLA—Sacramento Area Blue Line Association

by Roy Kerton

Chairman **Ed Lewandowski** welcomed 18 members and guests to the February 8th meeting of SABLA. The guest speaker was retired Captain **Tony Ruiz**, whose LAPD career started in 1937 and ended with the 77th Street Division Detectives in 1963.

John Powers introduced Tony by telling some interesting stories about experiences they shared while they were working together in Robbery/Homicide. Tony went on to relate his experiences in the Dominican Republic after his retirement from LAPD. He went there to help rehabilitate that country's police force. While he was there, he was drafted to serve as a driver for President Lyndon Johnson and Lady Bird during their visit to the Dominican Republic.

Members present at the meeting besides Ed Lewandowski, **Hoy Key**, and myself included **James Byrd**, who made a two hour drive from Angwin, California, **Charles Blogin**, **Hal White** and **Charlie Long** from Roseville, **Ken Carlsted** and **John Ide** from Auburn, **Chuck Crawford** from Jackson, **Gene De Crona** from Rancho Murietta, **Carl Kuehn** from Elk Grove, **John Powers** from Cool, **Bill** and **Muriel McMonagle**

from Colfax, **Jim Meskin** from Rocklin, and **James Van Riper** from Citrus Heights. If I missed someone, let me know and I'll catch you next time!

Gene DeCrona reported on the results of his investigation regarding cost and availability of a golf game after a SABLA meeting. Mather AFB golf course fees are \$16 (over age 65), \$21 (under 65) and \$12 for a golf cart. Reservations must be made a week in advance, so call Gene at (916) 354-2292 if you are interested in playing following the June 19th meeting.

The "Spring Fling Bar-B-Q" will be held at the exclusive gated community of Greenstone in Placerville on Sunday, May 20, 2001. It will be catered by the award winning "Back Forty Restaurant." The cost is \$20 per person for all you can eat Bar-B-Q, soft drinks, and snacks. The caterer requires a minimum of 50 people, so make your reservations by April 12th. Contact Ed Lewandowski at (530) 626-4248, e-mail fasted@plvlinnereite.com or Hoy Key at (916) 771-9206, e-mail hoy@psyber.com.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Keep up the good work and be careful out there!

ATTENTION ALL ACTIVE AND RETIRED LAPD COME JOIN US!

THE NINETEENTH 77TH STREET DIVISION ALUMNI ASSOCIATION REUNION

Where: San Remo Hotel, 115 E. Tropicana Blvd., Las Vegas, Nevada
When: June 4, 5, & 6, 2001
Package: Three days, two nights (including tax); hospitality room (bar and snacks); five raffle tickets; banquet-picnic style
Dress: Casual
Reservations: Contact Morris Candlish, (702) 456-2410; George Surber, (909) 765-9183; Rolph Lucke, (909) 597-1653.
Cut Off Date for Reservations: May 1, 2001.

77th STREET DIVISION 19TH ANNUAL REUNION GOLF TOURNAMENT

When: Tuesday, June 5, 2001 – 1st tee time – 7:00 a.m.
Where: The Revere at Anthem (Private golf course) 2600 Evergreen Oaks Dr. Henderson, NV (702) 259-4653
Cost: \$65 per person, golf only

~ Registration Required by May 30th ~
SOFT SPIKES ONLY

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SCGA or USGA HDCP (as of May 1st): _____

I wish to play with: _____

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 (818) 248-5124

Retirement Corner



| Rank | Name | Serial No. | Last Assigned to | No. of Years |
|---------|---------------------|------------|------------------|--------------|
| P-II | Travis R. White | 13308 | Northeast | 24 |
| D-III | John X. Vach | 14415 | Hollenbeck | 30 |
| P-III | Charles R. Beck | 14676 | North Hollywood | 32 |
| D-II | James E. Hamilton | 14766 | 77th | 32 |
| P-III+1 | Timothy Russell | 16640 | Metropolitan | 30 |
| D-III | Dennis D. Drulias | 20073 | 77th | 27 |
| SGT-I | Alfonso R. Guerrero | 20550 | Hollenbeck | 26 |
| D-II | Christopher Mora | 21099 | Financial Crimes | 25 |
| D-II | John D. Freitas | 22920 | Robbery Homicide | 19 |
| D-III | Debra A. Dawson | 23069 | Internal Affairs | 20 |

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Sunday, April 29, 11 AM
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 Everyone, active or retired, is welcome, including spouses. Renew old friendships and make new friends!

RSVP for brunch is required by April 20, 2001. Send remittance to:

Harold Skidmore 6279
 13025 Kings Valley Hwy
 Monmouth, OR 97361
 (503) 838-5720

OR

Alan Priest
 1764 Whitney Dr.
 Salem, OR 97304

503-375-9980/alsandra@home.com

If making reservations at the Holiday Inn, tell them you are from the LAPD and you will get a \$25 discount.

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RETIREMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Although the date has passed, we are running this retirement announcement for commemorative purposes.

The Los Angeles Police Department announces a-

SPLINTEROUS RETIREMENT DINNER

honoring: POLICEMAN III +1

Timothy R. Russell

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Dinner @ 1830

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W/Volley FE 4-01
77th St 3-02
IARD 6-85
Hollywood 10-85
77th St. Pat 6-86
10258 ADIC 1-87
10258 ADIC 5-90
1177th DPT 7-91
1177th DPT 8-91
Support Spt. DI 1-94
Support Hous. 6-94
Rothman OS 8-94
Retired 7-2-00

Quick H. Moffatt
02-01

The Los Angeles Police Department announces...

a Retirement **DINNER**

honoring
DET. II **John D. Freitas**

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10258 ADIC 1-87
10258 ADIC 5-90
1177th DPT 7-91
1177th DPT 8-91
Support Spt. DI 1-94
Support Hous. 6-94
Rothman OS 8-94
Retired 7-2-00

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continued on page 46

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continued from page 45

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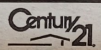
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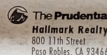
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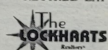


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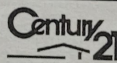
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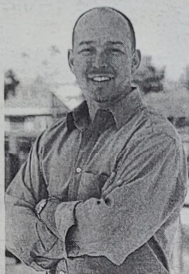
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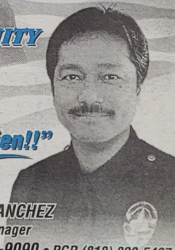
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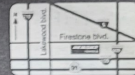
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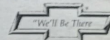


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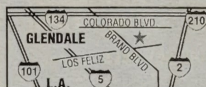
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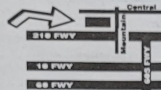
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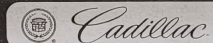
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